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ACCOUNT  
OF  
**CHELTENHAM,**  
AND  
ITS VICINITY.

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LONDON: J. NICHOLS AND SON,  
25, PARLIAMENT STREET.

P  
of the Town wi  
MINNE  
AT CHE

PLAN  
of the Town with the Situation of the  
MINERAL WELLS,  
AT CHELTENHAM.

1825.



A

PICTURESQUE AND TOPOGRAPHICAL

**ACCOUNT**

OF

**CHELTENHAM,**

*And its Vicinity.*

---

BY THE

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THE HISTORY OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE, THE WYE TOUR, &c.

---

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

*Contributions towards the Medical Topography,*

INCLUDING THE

**MEDICAL HISTORY OF THE WATERS.**

BY

**JOHN FOSBROKE,**

RESIDENT SURGEON AT CHELTENHAM.

---

*CHELTENHAM:*

**S. C. HARPER, 350, HIGH STREET;**

NICHOLS AND SON, 25, PARLIAMENT STREET, AND G. B. WHITTAKER,  
AVE MARIA LANE, LONDON.

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**1826.**



## P R E F A C E.

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THE object of this work is to give some literary character to the accounts of Cheltenham, by treating the subject according to the rules of great authorities in scenery and archæology. With respect to the former, it is only necessary to observe, that Nature furnishes the native beauty of the picturesque, and that the millinery only belongs to art; and also, that the opinions of such oracles as Wheatley, Gilpin, &c. are, of course, valuable accessions to topographical discussion. As to the latter, it is sufficient to say, that the historical information is in some parts novel, in others curious, and in all parts to the purpose. The Essay on the Waters, by the Author's son, will, he hopes, evince his application to the science of his profession, and good taste in literature.

*Some remarks are to be made before entering upon the work.*

Since the personal survey was made, the Author has had an opportunity of recently observing the effects of growth and finish in the vistas connected with the Pump-Rooms (see p. 29). The effect is exceedingly good, notwithstanding the rawness and formality attached to *newness*. The eddying turns of the walks, the breaks of ornamented hillocks, and the amphitheatrical areas, which show off the sides and fronts of the Pump-Rooms are *secundum artem*; but with respect to the Pump-Rooms themselves, it is deeply to be regretted that they are in the Grecian style. No relief is afforded by the columns, because, as Mr. Price observes (*Essay on the Picturesque*, iii. 394), where the intercolumniation is walled up, there is an end of every appearance of lightness, airiness, and delicacy of form. Nor is the intercolumniation mended by huge sash-windows. The only style in which such windows appear well is the Gothic; and that appearance is purely owing to the lace-work of the mullions, for without them

even they are spoiled. The Grecian ancients had no such windows, well knowing that they would force themselves into notice to the destruction of all the other beauties of the building. The Author's opinion of the proper style of Pump-Rooms (of which he *may* speak, because the proposed model is a Roman one,) is given in p. 28 ; and he does not give up the opinion, because that of *Bath* is a similar sashed and columned warehouse, upon a larger scale. Under any circumstances the Asiatic or Arabian styles (*see Murphy's beautiful work,*) would have been more fortunate, because, if the large windows are indispensable, the wooden sash-work in those styles might be latticed, trellised, or fancifully reticulated, and painted green, as they are in theatrical scenes.

In passing along a vista the Author saw on one side, *walled out from a shrubbery!* the neglected Chelt among his well-dressed neighbours, *stark naked as he was born.* This ought not to be ; the interesting rivulet ought to issue from arched rock overhung with wood :

“ *Sylva vetus stabat, nullâ violata securi—  
Est specus in medio, virgis ac vimine densus,  
Efficiens humilem lapidum compagibus arcum,  
Uberibus fœcundus aquis.*”—**OVID, MET. l. iii.**

In p. 38, l. 3, the sense is spoiled by the misprint of *houses* of the Crescent, instead of *horns* of the Crescent.

In the plan of Whitcombe Roman villa, there is a trifling mistake. In the *country-houses* of the Romans the peristyle *preceded* the atrium, in town-houses *followed* it; the remains of the column show this to have been the case here. Belzoni (*Travels*, p. 427,) observes, that the Romans used for their baths a sort of red brick cement, made of ground bricks, mixed with lime. This cement appears at Whitcombe, and should have been noticed.

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## ERRATA.

Page 6 l. 7, *read* South; l. 8. *read* North.  
72 l. 7, *for* chalk, *read* freestone.  
142 second line from the bottom, *for* plain, *read* so plain.  
150 l. ..., *for* livid, *read* lurid.  
155 l. 12 and 13, *for* redundancy and over-contrition, *read* redundant contrition.  
157 l. 3, *for* while, *read* wile.  
166 last l. *for* seem, *read* seemed.  
171 three lines from the bottom, *for* have, *read* has.  
177 l. ..., *for* when, *read* where; second line from the bottom, *for* nullas, *read* nullus.  
184 l. 8. *for* motions, *read* emotions.  
300 l. 11. *for* grandfather's, *read* grandchildren's.

# ACCOUNT OF CHELTENHAM.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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### ANCIENT HISTORY OF CHELTENHAM.

GLoucestershire, eastward of the Severn, is partitioned off, by nature, into two grand compartments. One is the Vale, which extends from Bristol to Evesham; the other is the Cotswold, a ridge of eminences, which walls in the Vale from Bath to Broadway Hills. The river Severn flowing along this Vale, was the boundary of two distinct nations; namely, the **SILURES**, or natives of the Western Bank of the Severn, Herefordshire, Monmouthshire, and part of South Wales, and the **DOBUNI**, who occupied the Eastern Bank, and the heights behind it. Robbery and piracy were deemed glorious by the ancient Greeks.\* Cæsar mentions the domestic wars of the Britons, and every body has read of the payment of Black Mail among the Scots, or later

\* Dodwell's Greece, i. 74.

Celts, to prevent depredation. The Silures, whom Tacitus calls an insulting and pugnacious people, and whom, under Caractacus, the Romans only subdued after a nine years' war, were the dangerous neighbours of the Dobuni. Against them, therefore, the latter threw up a series of fortresses, extending along the ridge of the Cotswold; and Ostorius, who succeeded Plautius in the year 51, adopted nearly all of these,\* when he prepared, as Tacitus tells us, to raise camps along the Severn and Avon, to secure his rear, and preserve his communications, after he had crossed the former river into the territories of Caractacus and the Silures. Mr. Baker has enumerated twenty-five of these British, or Romanized Camps, of which the following are in the immediate vicinity of Cheltenham: Pains-week Beacon (Roman), Churchdown, High Brotheridge above Whitcombe, Crickley Hill, Leckhampton Hill, Cleeve Hill, Nottingham Hill, and Bredon Hill (British); to the north-eastward of which last two camps there are only one or two very small entrenchments, merely denoting British settlements. The existence of Cheltenham

\* Fosbroke's Gloucestershire, i. 6. This presumption is strengthened by a long dissertation on the subject in the *Archæologia*, xix. pp. 161, *et seq.*

as a town, at this period, is out of the question. The earliest British villages stood upon hills, and the Romanized Britons were the first who sought the shelter of the vale. British villages are known by irregular earthworks, alterations of the surface by excavations, more verdant herbage, black soil, animal bones, pottery, bricks, tiles, the contiguity of barrows, and a hollow or covered way, or bank, forming a street, leading from one village to another, or to a fortress, the common appendage of such settlements.\* In short, slight banks intersecting the plain in unequal portions, a black soil, excavations for huts, and barrows adjacent, are obvious external tests discovered by simple observation ; and that there were such settlements connected with the fortresses mentioned, we have every reason to suppose from analogy. That Cheltenham and the Vale in general, were temporarily occupied by the Britons, for the pasture of their cattle, is not only a presumption founded upon their known habits, but a reasonable inference from the Doomsday account of the Anglo-Saxon æra, and the conclusions drawn from it.

Cheltenham, it is to be observed, lies at a great distance from Cirencester (*Corinium Do-*

\* *Encyclopedia of Antiquities*, ii. 521, 522

*bunorum,) and is not very near Gloucester, (Glevum,) nor are there any other Roman towns known.* Fortunately, a tradition has been preserved, which, by inviting investigation, has led to the discovery of a British and Roman-British settlement, which was apparently the direct predecessor of Cheltenham, it being the custom to remove the places of residence to neighbouring vallies, for the greater convenience of water, or to banks of rivers, &c. for evident considerations. Thus, Kenchester was evacuated for Hereford; Ariconium for Ross; Old Sarum for Salisbury; and nearer home, Old Sennington, (the site of which, with the church, is still shown,) for a lower spot, now the modern Sevenhampton, pronounced Sennington. Sir Robert Atkins,\* speaking of the ancient Doomsday names of the hundreds, says, that the modern Bradley Hundred was divided into two, viz. Bradelei and *Warcescombe* *about Withington.* Warcescombe implies the valley of the watchmen, from *wakor, vigilis, and comb,* a valley, surrounded on both sides by hills. It may, therefore, have been the quarters of a body of men destined to defend the fortress on Cleeve Hill, when necessity required, a custom retained in our feudal

\* P. 40, Ed. 1712.

tenures, by Castle Guard or Ward. Sir Henry Spelman also says, that Hundred Courts were to be held within an ancient *burgh* or fortified place, for the security of the suitors.\* He also says, of *Hundreds*, that the Lord of the Hundred used to derive from thence various aids and services, and among these corn to feed hunting dogs, for which a pecuniary commutation was afterwards substituted. The reason why this tax was first levied was, he says, that the country might be cleared from wolves, foxes, badgers, and other vermin.† Now, it appears, in the Doomsday account of Cheltenham, that the Hundred and Manor paid, in the time of King Edward the Confessor, *inter alia*, three thousand loaves for the King's dogs.‡

This *Wacrescombe* about Withington, the presumed predecessor of Cheltenham, stood in a field, now called, by corruption, *Wycombe*, or

\* *Archæologus*, v. *Hundredus*, p. 366, Ed. 1626.

† *Id.*

‡ *Ducange* (Gloss. v. *Panis*) mentions “*Panis Sordidus*,” the worst sort of bread, given to dogs; and in *Smyth's Lives of the Berkeleys* it is said, that no less than forty-four quarters and one bushel of oats, were given, 23 Edw. III. to Lord Berkeley's hounds. *Berkeley Manuscripts*, p. 132. Barley was also given them. *Id.* p. 146.

*Wiccombe*, in or close to Withington. One end joins on to the house at Sierford, and it is surrounded on all sides by roads, a common designation of ancient towns. It has one road, in particular, adjacent, which passed by Whittington (where a Roman tessellated pavement has been found) in a line direct North to Cirencester, and in an opposite direction South, to the camp on Cleeve Hill. This road is straight, another important characteristic. The valla, and all protuberances, have been removed, as is the case with Brough,\* and many other Roman stations; but the indications are nevertheless decisive. The form of the field is a parallelogram. Coins from Nero to Valens have been collected in such quantities, that if rain has followed the process of harrowing, the country people go there to collect coins. Remains of black pottery have been found, and when the corn appears above ground, there is a discolouration, which shows that there had been a road or street all down the middle of the field. A circle also appears, and within this spot excavations were made, and stones were found, cut and worked into heads, as if they had belonged to the frieze of a temple. In a quarry, not far off, were discovered the bones of a

\* Stukeley's *Itiner.* i. 109.

Briton, the boss of a shield six inches diameter, and the head of a spear seventeen inches in the blade, and nine inches in the socket. Both of these very nearly resemble the *umbo* and spear found in the Celtic Wiltshire Barrows, and engraved Archæologia, xv. pl. xviii. f. i. and xix. f. 3. A hearth or floor, known to be an appendage of British settlements, was also found\*; and leaden coffins supposed to be Roman, (for they were known to that people,†) were discovered upon excavating the foundation of the house at Sandywell, about three quarters of a mile from Wiccombe.

That this was a *Roman* station, does not appear. It rather seems to have been a British, and Roman-British settlement. It does not lie sufficiently near to any of their *great* roads, nor is it mentioned in the Itineraries. But it is to be remembered, that there were two kinds of con-

\* I am indebted for my knowledge of this spot, to William Morris, Esq.; and accordingly, in Nov. 1824, I visited the site, in company with that gentleman, and his son Walter Lawrence, Esq. of Sandywell Park. The spear and boss were produced, and are now, as well as numerous coins found there, in the possession of Mr. Lawrence. The other matters stated above were derived from information on the spot.

† Gough's Sepulchral Monuments, Intr. i. 39.

temporary roads, the Roman, called by the Anglo-Saxons, the *Viæ Militares* (military ways,) and the British Trackways, denominated by them the *country ways*; besides which there were the *vicinal ways*, mentioned before, in use among the Britons. *Bury Hill*, or by abbreviation, *Brill*, *Street*, *Stone*, *Stretton*, the termination *ester*, *wick* or *week*, *cold harbour*, (from *Col*, an eminence, *British*, and *Arbhar*, Gallick, an army,\*) *Ridgeway*, and *Portway*, designate Roman stations or British settlements. There is a hamlet in Painswick called *Street-wick*, implying the town or settlement, and road annexed to the fortress; yet, nothing is known of it, and so *de cæteris*. All the stations and camps on the ridge of the Coteswold were so situated, that they could be used as beacons, to communicate intelligence along the whole line, by smoke in the day time, and fire at night; and these settlements, like *Wickstreet* and *Wiccombe*, were doubtless residences in the rear for the inhabitants. Cæsar tells us expressly, that the Britons, when they had been defeated by him at his landing, repaired to their fortifications.

It is plain from Hyginus, that the Romans,

\* See Sir R. C. Hoare's *Anc. Wilts.—Encyclopediæ of Antiquities, &c.*

when the country was secured, descended into the lower grounds. This is shown in the camp at *Frocester*, which adjoins the Manor House at the foot of the hill, in the Villas at Woodchester and Witcombe, and other instances. Mr. Baker has rendered an important service to Topography, by bringing these lines of forts into one view; but much remains to be done, in regard to communications, between these Posts. Thus, in the Registers of St. Augustine's Abbey, Bristol, a *Ridgeway* (the old appellation of British Trackways) is mentioned as one of the roads at Berkeley, and probably it descended from the Ridge, near Wotton Underedge, and went to Oldbury or Aust. Mr. Leman, the great authority on Roman Roads and British Trackways, states, that there were several smaller than the Great Road from Gloucester to Cirencester, connected with the former place, and possibly with many of the smaller posts in the neighbourhood.\*

In the Anglo-Saxon æra, one hundred manors in Gloucestershire belonged to the Crown; for when the household was maintained by procurations, it was usual for the court to change its residence very often, (whence *Palatium*, palace

\* Fosbroke's Gloucester, Pref. viii.

from *palor*, to wander,) on account of the exhaustion of the country, by the numerous retinues. In after times, the Barons did the same, holding their estates themselves, and moving from manor to manor. There were not far from Cheltenham, the Mercian Palace, at Gloucester, another at Winchcombe, and a third somewhat further, at King's Hill, in Kingstanley. There were others in the county. Deorhyrst implies a woody ground, stocked with deer; and this residence may explain, why in the time of Edward the Confessor, the Manor of Cheltenham was held in the King's hands, and three thousand loaves retained in payment for the dogs, though the real origin was that before given. William the Conqueror commuted the Anglo-Saxon money payment of nine pound five shillings and the loaves, for twenty pound in money, as many cows and hogs, and sixteen shillings instead of the bread, an ample rent, which shows a very high state of cultivation in the parish and hundred. The cause is thus explained by Mr. Turner, "When (he says) the Anglo-Saxons invaded this island, they came into a country which had been under the Roman power for about four hundred years, and where agriculture, after its more complete subjugation by Agricola, had been so much encouraged, that it became

one of the Western Granaries of the empire. The Britons, therefore, of the fifth century, may be considered to have possessed the best system of husbandry then in use, and their lands to have been extensively cultivated with all those exterior circumstances which mark established proprietorship and improvement, as small farms, including fields, regular divisions into meadow, arable, pasture, and wood ; fixed boundaries, planted hedges, artificial dykes and ditches, selected spaces for vineyards, gardens, and orchards, connected roads and paths, scattered villages, and larger towns, with appropriated names for every spot and object that marked the limits of each property, or the course of each way. All these appear in the earliest Anglo-Saxon charters.”\*

As to the etymon of *Cheltenham*, Thoroton well observes, concerning Nottinghamshire, (Pref. i. xiii.) that there does not remain the name of any field, hamlet, village, town, or place, which is not originally of the Anglo-Saxon language, except the *rivers*, which still seem to retain the British appellations. *Ham*, whence came our word *home*, undoubted Anglo-Saxon, merely implies a house, farm, or vill. If *Chilt* be taken from the rivulet, it *ought to be a British*

\* History of the Anglo-Saxons, iii. 597.

appellation. But Rudder, who stretched Sir Robert Atkins's work on the rack, substituted an etymon from *chilt* or *cylt*, which he said was *Anglo-Saxon* for *clay*; but having studied that language, I affirm that *clæg* is *clay*, and that no *chilt* or *cilt* appears in Lye's Dictionary. Other mistakes have occurred, as extraordinary as those of Rudder. In certain accounts of Cheltenham, the County Historians, in the mass, are charged with dealing in conjecture and misrepresentation in their descents of the Manor of Cheltenham. Vindication of myself, as one of these, will not, I trust, be deemed an act of irritability. I therefore affirm that, the descent given in my work being printed in the Parliament Rolls, and Statutes at large, (published by order of Government, so far as relates to the period between Henry III. and Charles I. which authorities are evidences in Courts of Justice,) further reply is unnecessary. The only records in MS. are those between Doomsday and Henry III. and, "How genuine and authentic," as he calls them, are here the statements of this writer, who is misled by pretended title-deeds, will be seen from the *note* below.\*

\* 1. The first account of the accuser states, that in 1199, Cheltenham was the *bona fide* property of Henry

The descent of the Manor lies in a small compass. It was farmed under the crown by

de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, who exchanged it *with the Conqueror*, for other lands. [It is a misquotation of Sir Robert Atkins, who says *King John*, not the Conqueror.]

The *Conqueror* died in 1086, and the record refers to *JOHN*, the Conqueror's *great grandson*. It merely states, that Henry de Bohun released to *King John* all his right in the lands which were Bernard de Newmarch's, in Newnham, the Forest of Deane, Minsterworth, Aure, Dymock, and *Chilterne*, which certainly was *not Cheltenham*.—*Cart. 1 Joh. Pars II.*

2. The second account says, that in 1219, [3 Henr. III.] this Manor and Hundred were granted to William Long Espee, natural son of Henry II. by fair Rosamond. He, dying in the tenth year of that Monarch's Reign, bequeathed it to his son, who, leaving the realm without consulting the King, incurred his displeasure, and his manorial estates were seized, and given in dower to Queen Eleanor. Thus, were the same lands, by a singular train of events, granted to the offspring of his paramour, and his lawful wife.

This is a transcript of Sir R. Atkins, as far as the words "Queen Eleanor." His authority, by his naming "dying seized," is an inquisition p. mort. But in the "Bundellus, Ann. Incert. H. III." there is *no* such record, and no regular series. The latter does not commence till 20 Henr. III., and it does not occur there. The Manor, 10 Henry III. was let to

various persons, till the time of King Henry III., who granted it to the Abbey of Fiscamp in Normandy, in exchange for Winchelsea and Rye ; and the Abbot had license afterwards of letting it out to *religious men* and others. Upon this record, some incidental observations may be made. Ecclesiastics were then the best farmers. Mr. Turner says, “ Of the Anglo-Saxon husbandry we may remark, that Doomsday Survey gives us some indication that the cultivation of the church lands was much superior to that of any other class of society. They have much less wood upon them, and less common of pasture, and what they had appears often in smaller and more irregular pieces, whilst their meadow was more abundant, and in more numerous distributions.”\*

After the dissolution of the Alien Priories the

farm to the inhabitants, says Sir Robert. It certainly was so, 14 Henry III. (See Rot. Pat. 14 H. III. m. 6.) The rent might have been granted by the Crown to the persons named ; but the monstrous mistake is, that Henry II. should have been confounded with Henry III., his *grandson*, and Eleanor of Provence, Queen of the latter, be also confounded with *his grandmother*, the Queen of Henry II.

The accounts of more recent periods, taken from the Records of the Manor, appear to be correct.

\* History of the Anglo-Saxons, iii. 607.

Manor was granted to the Nuns of Sion,\* but the town was in ruin, as appears by the following record. In 1441 (20 H. VI.) all cities and towns desolate and wasted, or overcharged, were released from the Quindismes and Dismes; and accordingly it was ordered, “That the laye people, dwelling in the towne of Chelteham, yn the shire of Gloucr, to the payment of the half of the said xv<sup>me</sup> and x<sup>me</sup>, or any part thereof, concerning the same toune, by force of this graunt, be not arted nor compelled, but thereof quyte and discharged for ever.”† So great had been the dilapidation of cities and towns, that in 1450 eleven streets in the city of Winchester had fallen into decay; and in 1468 the opulent counties of Essex and Hertford were so bare of substantial inhabitants, that not one town in the latter county, and only Colchester and Maldon in the former, could send a member to Parliament.‡ The Nuns of Sion leased out the Manor for terms of years, and after the dissolution the Crown did the same, or held it under Stewards. This practice continued till the reign of Charles I. when it was purchased by John Dut-

\* See Rot. Parl. 1 and 4 Ed. IV.

† Rot. Parl. 20 H. VI.

‡ *Archæologia*, vol. i. pp. 91, 151.—See too the Histories of England.

ton, Esq., and in his representative, Lord Sherborne, it now remains.

There was an estate long vested in families of note. This estate was *Arle*, which was afterwards united with *Red-grove*. It first belonged to a family which took its name from the place, then to the Grevilles, Lygons, Dormers, and Yorkes, and was, in 1795, sold to Thomas Packer Butt, of Mitchin-Hampton, Esq.\*

Sir Robert Atkins, whose work was published in 1712, mentions only two good houses of gentlemen (of which hereafter) besides that of Arle-Court; but I have a pedigree of a good family at Alstone, named Packer.

The church was given by Henry I. to the Abbey of Cirencester, in 1133, who appropriated it. The present church might have been commenced on or about the period mentioned, but was either not finished till the end of the next century, or greatly improved in it. The round window is curious.

#### *Historical Particulars.*

“Edward the Fourth,” says Holinshed, “on his way to Tewkesbury, to meet Queen Margaret,

\* See the particulars in Fosbroke’s Gloucestershire, ii. 272—3.

came to a village called Cheltenham, where he had certain knowledge that his enemies were already come to Teuxbury, and were incamped there, purposing to abide him in that place, and to deliver him battell. King Edward thereupon made no long delaie, but took a little refection himself, and caused his people to doo the like, with such provision of vittels, as he had appointed to be conveyed foorth with him, for the reliefe of himselfe and his armie. This done, hee set forward towards his enemies, and lodged that night in a field, not past three miles from them."

There is nothing of further importance in this anecdote, than its exhibition of Cheltenham, then lying in one of the high roads from Bath. Margaret had gone to Tewkesbury, by way of Gloucester, through Berkeley. Edward came over the Coteswold from Sodbury, where he had passed the preceding night.

Cheltenham was, during the civil wars, held on behalf of the King (for some time at least), by Mr. Dutton, the Lord of the Manor. In the Mercurius Aulicus (week 47, 1643) is the following paragraph ;—“ As we were advertised this day (Nov. 21), the noble Lord Chandos had intelligence brought him, yesterday, to Sudley Castle, that the rebels of Gloucester intended

to be that day at Cheltenham, to receive the contributions of that Hundred, and the rents of master Dutton, Lord of the place (who it seems hath forfeited all his lands to the rebels, because he will not forfeit his allegiance); upon this notice the Lord Chandos tooke with him 120 horse and 100 foote, and marched presently to Cheltenham, where, finding the rebels, he quickly fell upon them, killed about half a score, and took 22, whereof ten were of Colonel Massey's owne troope, and one was Massey's Commissary, and was indeed to have been the receiver of these rents, and the people's contribution, which his Lordship prevented, by sending Master Receiver, and his 22 fellowes prisoners to Oxford, where they now are delivered to the Provost Marshall General, to the great delight of the countrey people, who, by this means, are freed of their new landlords."

In another of the same papers, dated Saturday, Nov. 25, 1643, it appears that Col. Massey had "summoned divers carts to meet at Cheltenham, to carry away the goods of that towne," when Lord Chandos, by the preceding exploit, saved the town from being pillaged. The rebels, however, had a garrison at Prestbury House, at the same time, who sallied out to cut off the retreat of Lord Chandos, but were defeated.

In a “*True Relation of the diurnal marchings of the red and blew regiments of the trained bands of the city of London, which marched to the relief of Gloucester, from Aug. 23, to September 28—London, 4to, 1643,*” it appears, that Waller had arrived at Prestbury, and in his march through Cheltenham, was resolutely impeded. “This evening,” [Sept. 25] says the tract, “The Lord General was fain to fight for his quarters, and beat the enemy out of it, at a market town called Cheltenham, five miles from Gloucester, and 2 miles from this hill. About midnight we had two alarms upon this hill, in the midst of all the storm and rains, which, together with the darkness of the night, made it so much the more dreadful.” On or before the next day, the King’s troops in Cheltenham retreated. The town could not of course be retained as a place of strength, and “in the *General Account* of March 31, 1645,” it is said, “That Massey had cleared *all Cheltenham Hundred.*”—“On Sept: following, (says the *Perfect Diurnal* of Sept. 8, 1645,) the Scottish army marched through Gloucester, intending to quarter that night at Cheltenham, and so towards Warwick.”

In the time of Sir Robert Atkins (1712), Cheltenham is described as a town considerably engaged in the malt trade, having three hundred

and twenty-one houses, and about fifteen hundred inhabitants, whereof two hundred were free-holders. This was a very ample proportion indeed, and probably included the Hundred, for only seventy-one polled at the great contested election in 1775, and but forty-two in the remainder of the Hundred ; there was only one seat, viz. Mr. Justice Dormer's, at Arle ; and only two good houses, viz. Mr. Mitchel's, in the town, and Mr. Hiet's, at Allstone. The number of houses in the town was two hundred and fifty, and seventy-one in the hamlets. Of these, Arle and Alston had thirty each, Westal six, and Naunton and Sandford five.

This was but a short period, before the discovery of the waters. In the year 1716, the ground which contained the original spring, was sold to a Mr. Mason, who, observing that flocks of pigeons regularly frequented the spot, to feed on the saline particles, and that the water continued to flow during frost, instituted an investigation. In 1718, the Spa was rudely inclosed, and a small thatched shed was erected ; and for three years the water was used as a medicine. After the decease of Mr. Mason and his son, Capt. H. Skillicorne, father of the late landlord, becoming proprietor of the spring and the premises, in right of his wife, daughter of Mr.

Mason, in 1738 not only built the old room on the West side, for the drinkers, with other necessary conveniences, but protected the spring from all extraneous matter, and erected a square brick building on four arches, as a dome over it, with a pump on the East side, rising in form of an obelisk. The well, in the centre of this dome, is about five or six feet below the surface, close shut down with doors, to exclude the freedom of the air. At the same time, he laid out the paved court about it, formed the upper and lower walks, planted trees, and was continually improving the natural beauties of the spot.”

Martin, who published a *Natural History of England*, in 1759 describes Cheltenham, as a market town of one long street, having a good trade in malt, but remarkable for nothing so much as its “medicinal, purging waters,” with a pleasant walk leading to the spring, and a great number of commodious lodgings for the reception of company. “According to *Camden*,” he adds, “this water is much of the same nature as Scarborough.”\*

The “one long street” shows that the town was never Roman or British. Towns occupied by the former are of the shape of a long cross, and the latter never built in streets.

\* Vol. i. p. 361.

In 1780, the visitors are estimated in the local accounts at four hundred and seventy. But the whole number of lodging-houses did not much exceed thirty.

In June, 1788, his late Majesty, King George III. paid a visit to this place, and resided at Fauconberg House. The following anecdotes are recorded: One day he rode out to Burley, and the weather being rainy, wore his great coat. On his return, he overtook a farmer, with his drove of sheep. His Majesty rode with him for a quarter of an hour, conversing upon the value and properties of the land, and the prices of sheep and cattle. After satisfactorily answering all His Majesty's inquiries, the farmer grown familiar, asked the gentleman, if he had seen the King, and being answered in the affirmative, he no doubt supposing that his Majesty always appeared, as in signs of alehouses, in his coronation robes, said, "Our neighbours say he is a good sort of a man, but dresses very plain."—"Aye," said the King, "as plain as I do," and rode on.—His Majesty's servants played at cricket, (the King having sent to London for bats and balls,) lest they should sicken for want of exercise.—The Highman Palantine performed his conjurations before the royal family. He requested the King to cut a bit of silk out of the

Queen's gown, with which his Majesty very condescendingly complied, and the juggler, in an instant, replaced it.—Being straitened for want of room at the lodge, the King, who had taken notice of a neatly built timber house, at the end of the town, conceived that it might be removed in a few days, and be placed on an elevated spot, at no great distance from the royal residence. Mr. Ashton, an ingenious mechanic and surveyor, undertook to do it. It was accordingly effected, though there was a bridge to pass, and an ascent of fifty feet, between July 22d and 28th, to his Majesty's disappointment, who had limited the performance to a much shorter period.\*

The house was small, built of wood, with sash windows, and stood on the spot to which it had been removed, for some few years after his Majesty's departure.

In the census of 1811, the numbers were, houses 2450, inhabitants 8325; 1821, houses 2849, inhabitants 15,522.

\* Gent's. Mag. for 1788.

CHAPTER I.

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## PICTURESQUE ACCOUNT OF CHELTENHAM.

WERE a man to lay out a watering place *de novo*, perhaps he would mark out a large plot of ground, dress it up like a park, build a Grecian temple, with a peribolus or colonnade, or a kind of Vauxhall upon and around the site of the spring, and intersperse the villas for lodging-houses, upon the small knolls and elevations. If he had the benefit of a rivulet, like the Chelt, he would convert it into a fine serpentine piece of water, break it with romantic islands, and conceal the extremities in wood. The roads he would wind so scientifically, and plant the sides so tastefully, that every turn would present a new view; and no stranger would anticipate the termination of his circuitous route. The church, as incongruous, he would place beyond the fence, on some advantageous spot, for an object of view; and the mean houses and stabling he would bury in a valley, if it existed,—if not, embosom them in wood. If he could not realize

this plan, (and indeed who could,) he would endeavour to detach the watering place and villas, hotels and lodging-houses, from the town, incorporation of which is in theory, as absurd as the junction of counting-houses and ball-rooms.

But such plans are impracticable. Things grow out of circumstances; and pounds, shillings, and pence have ever been refractory subjects under the domination of desires. In 1798, when the author first visited Cheltenham, the only conspicuous objects, as to superior character, were Fauconberg House, and a double range of buildings, in the High Street, above the Plough, which buildings (with the exception of one solitary brick house, that bore the air of a country mansion, and was near the Old Walk,) were considered to be the only habitations fit for the reception of high wealth and title. These High Street houses had balconies, for there was not a viranda in the whole town. The two turnpikes were indeed soldier-drest with whitewash, paint, gay lamps, and cheap tawdries of strong effect. The High Street was of motley character, the houses being of all heights, forms, and descriptions. A low thatched house with a gable end, and antique bay windows, of horn-coloured glass, and leaden reticulations, adjoined a flat dwelling, which poked out two shop-windows,

and looked like a woman with milk-pails, and next to this, was a slim London three or four storied house, with a railed area, ascent up steps, narrow passage, front and back parlour, and so forth. The foot-way of the street was partially paved ; but towards the Gloucester end, there was only a gravelled causeway, intersected at short intervals, by open yawning drains,—an inconvenience which rendered the path utterly unfit for a gossiping or thoughtful promenade, because absence or occupation of mind occasioned a fall into them. Here and there in the fields near the town, new-built houses were seen standing alone, looking like persons whistling in solitude, and waiting for friends to join them. The roads to them had the aspect of canals, when the water is let off, and at certain seasons of the year, might have been made navigable. Indeed, all the roads about the town were execrable, for the native materials being only of the hardness of loaf-sugar, were pulverized by every wheel. In the winter, every track became a gulley, and carriages were dragged along for miles in alarming attitudes of obliquity and oscillation. Such was the appearance of the town itself. The *est* was little, the *esse* was promising.

There were, however, two objects of considerable interest: Fauconberg House, and the Old Well. The former stood like a seat in a

park, and in every point of view looked well. In landscape consideration, it had no front, for the eye rested only on a projecting bow-window-like end. Buildings are in general better seen in an oblique, than in a direct view, or when a part is covered, or the extent is interrupted, or when they are bosomed in wood, or backed by it, or rise between the stems of trees, before or above them. If seen in front, they do not appear so large, and are not so beautiful; because, if viewed from an angular station, which commands two sides at once, both are thrown into perspective. The trees about the house were of the true park character, branchy and gigantic, and they broke the landscape into different aspects, at every step. The ground had fine swells, spotted irregularly with these majestic trees, and the surface was always fresh and verdant. One or two fields, like a few limbs of a glorious statue; still exhibit the original character; but the *tout ensemble*, which the house and grounds possessed, is lost for ever. The fine animal has been butchered, and cut out into joints.

The Old Well still remains with its venerable vista, and long *may* it remain. There is no ready money, or bills at short dates, to be had from Time; and if trees are cut down, he says, "that the vendor has gained the money by

a profitable annuity, which he settled upon them, as they grew up, and that all successors shall wait his pleasure for the same benefits." Vistas and avenues are, generally speaking, bad, because they cut the scenery directly in two, disturb all the views, and reduce every thing to a single prospect. This is the reason why lateral winding approaches are now made to country seats. But to vistas for a purpose like the present, the objection does not apply. It is intended for a promenade, of which a *coup d'œil* of the company is an important accompaniment. In a solitary walk, where the mind has to seek its amusement from itself, a winding road presents a succession of objects, and diversity is essential; but nobody walks in a mall for such a purpose. He goes to meet friends, see strangers, and recreate himself with chit-chat. His thoughts are directed to human beings, not scenery and views. That is the pastime of the morning-ride, or walk. There are two other subjects connected with this walk, the Pump-room and the Bridge. The abstract idea of what may be deemed proper for a pump-room, may perhaps be conceived from the frontispiece of Gell's Pompeiana, or the Restoration of the House of Sallust, in the same elegant work (Pl. lxxvii). Besides, it would have the interest of giving a correct idea of the interior of a Roman house. As the chief

materials employed would be only stucco and painting, the expence would not be prohibitory. At present pump-rooms have no character. They are mere lobbies.

The view of the church, at the bottom of the vista, is a felicitous conception, but the Bridge is too insignificant. It has no connection with the scene. It might, at an expence not worth consideration, be constructed of greater width and size in a rustic form, like that at Berkeley, which would harmonize with the scene, and a mount might be thrown up with a small plantation of low trees and shrubs on the town side, to intercept the sight of walls, and houses, but not exclude the church.

The new Walks have all the same character of malls and promenades, divided by trees,\* and finished at top by buildings. They will of course in time become Vistas, for the lower branches must be cut off, or they will impede the passage. Now, it will certainly be a novel scene, perhaps a very grand one, to have a contiguity of vistas side by side. According to my knowledge, the experiment has never been made of cutting a fine old wood into arcades; but upon paper the

\* I noticed beech among them. "The union of oak and beech," says Gilpin, " produces fine contrasts of tints."—Forest Scenery, i. 47.

effect is not bad. With all these vistas, walks are connected in various directions, but the merit of these entirely depends upon the ground over which they are conducted, and the scenery to which they are directed. The curved lines and embellishments are mere affairs of trade.

A remark ought to be made upon the statue of Hygeia, which appears on the summit of a pump-room, at the end of one of these vistas. Hygeia is certainly represented by the ancients as a full-grown matron, and so she appears in Mr. Hope's fine statue; but the substitution of bone for muscle, in this figure, whether it be a copy from a bad ancient specimen or a modern original, is of little moment; for the object of the ancients is, by either of them, equally misrepresented.

The forms in which Cheltenham is laid out, are **STREETS, DETACHED VILLAS, CRESCENTS, and PARALLELOGRAMS, CHURCHES, CHAPELS, &c.**

Of **STREETS**, it may be observed that, if the houses are all uniform, like Pulteney Street in Bath, (perhaps the finest street in the world,) or Portland Place in London, the best effect is the strait line; but that if the houses are irregular, and of various forms, a curvature may give an effect to a good part, which effect would be suffocated by the ugly whole, could it all be seen at

once. But that curve must be gradual. Streets serpentine boldly, like the letter S, would be inconceivable deformities. The High Street, at Oxford, which is the arc of a circle, through its winding, presents several rich and distinct scenes, by making the colleges and churches each a separate subject. The High Street of Cheltenham may, in the same manner, be divided into some good views, particularly about the centre and the London end; but the unequal width throughout is a great evil. Streets in this respect partake of the character of rivers; no recesses can be allowed, or pools be formed by making the banks concave, except it be to admit an island (in streets an ornamental building); and all turns should be generally larger than a right angle. Streets, however, are to be considered in another view, according to the number of good shops. Shops certainly animate the otherwise dead line of walls, doors, and windows, in houses, which are destitute of verandas and front-door shrubberies; and though there is an offence to taste in projecting bow-windows, and no amelioration ensues if they be even in regular series and uniformity, yet there is always something to catch the eye; and if that be occupied, faults are overlooked. Negatives best illustrate this point. Streets without good

showy shops, let the buildings be what they may, are always dull, because the eye grasps the whole view at once, and is immediately satiated.

LANES have no more picturesque character than cellars; nor can they acquire it unless the one could be converted into chasms, between rocks or mountains, overhung by trees, and the other into romantic caverns and grottoes. These are the only objects in nature, which approximate to lanes and cellars, and if there be no other in nature, there can of course be no other which are picturesque. Lanes are mere drains and gutters enlarged into passages; and their only character is that of being dismal: A colonnade is the right mode of communication, and if they cannot be widened into streets, the safety of the public requires, that they should be rendered impervious to carriages, by conversion into paved courts. Cheltenham, being a new town, is very little disfigured by them.

VILLAS.—It has been very properly observed, that to build streets in rural situations, is only to remove London into the country; but things of this kind are well managed in Cheltenham. Streets are capitally ranged, made up, and dressed, like fancy scenes for theatres. The general plan is width in the road ways, decorating the houses with virandas, green lawns, and shrubs

before and behind, and according to the French maxim, that so much light is so much cheerfulness, throwing the windows down to the floor. In this art of showing off houses, Cheltenham is far superior to London, (because the ground there is too precious to be spared,) and a Peer's Park-lane fairy palace is in the former place occupied by a middle-fortuned commoner. Shrubberies and villas, with very rare eccentricities, are, however, like one another. Mason's plan of a landscape garden, (which he has formed into a fine poem,) is the groundwork of them all, with the exception of extent of ground, which cannot be commanded. "The scene," he says, "should be chosen, where there are three well-marked distances; the foreground of a dark opaque or deep green cast; the second distance, olive; the third, blue or purple. Each separate part must have its foliage. The sides of the path from which we are to view it, are to be set with different greens. The view is sometimes to be entirely hid with larch, or cedar planted thick, then to open upon the eye, over some tufts of roses or woodbines; then to be admitted through a copse of beech. The distant hills are to be entirely clothed with wood. Whatever is straight, acute, or parallel, is to be melted into curves. The turf on the sides is to

be varied in breadth. If there are yawning crags around, the sides may be clothed with wood. If there be a flat, little hillocks may be made, and a curtain of wood spread around. The fences should be in the *ha-ha* style, in a transverse direction, so as to elude the eye. The railing should be painted of an olive colour, and made like a lattice." Wheatley adds,\* "That walks should never have sudden turns; they must only wind so much, that the termination of the view may differ at every step, and the end of the walks never appear; the thickets, which confine it, should be diversified with several mixtures of green. No distinctions in the forms of the shrubs or trees should be lost, when there are opportunities to observe them so nearly, and combinations and contrasts without number may be made, which are always truly ornamental. The ruin of such shrubberies, is division of them into small slips, and making only a collection of walks." Having thus given counsel's opinion on the subject, the next step is to apply it to the case. Gardeners formerly did not know a letter in landscape-gardening, but now in spelling and reading one or two syllable words, i. e. making *pocket-shrubberies*, pretty

\* *Ornamental Gardening*, p. 212.

things on a small scale, they have attained considerable proficiency; still there is room for improvement. The selection of the shrubs is not sufficiently regarded, and independently of the rules before quoted, from Mason and Wheatley, the following remark, where there is scantiness of room, is of great importance. An object (says Lord Kaimes\*) will appear more distant than it really is, if different evergreens be planted between that and the eye. Suppose holly [bays, and laurestines are of the same colour as holly,] and laurel, and the holly which is of the deeper colour nearer the eye; the degradation of colour in the laurel makes it appear at a great distance from the holly, and consequently removes the object in appearance to a greater distance, than it really is. There is another desideratum. In towns there are often unsightly objects in view of the back of the houses. Under this circumstance a hillock should be thrown up in the form requisite for intercepting the object, and be planted with shrubs on the top of it. Instances are known, where this has been so judiciously done, that a gravel walk has been carried round the foot of it, and as the mound also conceals the wall, neither the extremities nor limits

appear, and the spectator might imagine that the path leads into a wood, though the spot has not been twenty yards square. Walls also are covered with creepers winding among trellises, and no objection can be made to the practice. But diversity and improvement may be effected by making some very rude cavern or arched work with low underwood, ivy, &c. growing among the stones in front of the wall, and carrying the gravel walk, as if it was a cloister, through it ; but this is an affair of expence, and much difficulty in avoiding formality. Two other great improvements may also be made in the front gardens or courts ; viz. standing vines with pendant branches like weeping willows, but much smaller, such as are at Lord Darnley's in Kent, and rose-tumps growing upon little mounds, made in sections of a cylinder with turf outside, as at Lord Bathurst's at Cirencester.

Among the eccentricities (if they may be so called) are various specimens of rustic work, and all apparently in excellent taste. As to the wood work, it has but two principles, equal size in the meshes (if reticulated) and utter extinction of the smallest approach to formality. The rest is imitation of cottagery. A very ingenious clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Ferryman, unrivalled in this respect, and in his primrose and flowery

banks which have the rare quality of being utterly divested of formality, has erected a cottage on the Bath road, entirely in this style. Buildings of this kind are not frequent, indeed they are considered as toys; but as places of temporary residence, and not requiring heavy sacrifices in the construction and outfit, they are undoubtedly eligible.

Upon the whole, the taste of Cheltenham in buildings is of the first character.

**CRESCENTS.**—The Crescent in Bath is called the finest Ionic screen in Europe, and most certainly a convex colonade, as that below the dome of St. Paul's, is justly admired, especially by moonlight. In fact, the Grecian architecture is always fine on a large scale. A concave colonnade, if perforated, so as to let the columns only be visible, must, however, be superior in effect to that where the intercolumniation is dead wall or the columns cannot project sufficiently to have the powerful assistance of light and shade. The fashion seems to have grown out of the Roman circus and amphitheatre; but the Romans are far from being considered as having a good taste in architecture.\* The circus at Bath always appeared to me heavy. It is at least certain,

\* See Gell and Sandby's Pompeiana.

that houses in the centre of a crescent, which might command views if the line was straight, are obstructed in their look-out by the houses of the crescent. Houses too built in that form without the smallest architectural decoration of columns, frieze, and cornice, must have all the imperfections without the beauties. Moreover, if perspective be connected with architecture, as it undoubtedly is, except in mere ornaments, straight lines and angles must form part of its first principles, and deviations must be more odd than tasteful.

PARALLELOGRAMS. — Cheltenham has no squares, but it has streets very wide, with front gardens and a vacant centre compartment in some instances, in others not. Houses so situated are light and airy, and have the convenience of being unannoyed by dust, impertinent inspection, or the darkness of common streets. A high road running between the houses gives that animation which is a proper accompaniment to all rows of houses in towns, as deer, cattle, sheep, and game are to paddocks and parks. What is dwelling in a street without a thoroughfare, but the quiet of the country spoiled by conversion of it into the gloom of a prison? It has not the interesting appendages of good views, and surrounding landscape. The eye is confined to

walls, windows, and chimneys. The knock of a postman or a stranger is an important incident in the day's history.

CHURCHES and CHAPELS.—Gilpin, very properly observes,\* that a winding road, spreading trees, a rivulet with a bridge, and *a church spire to bring the whole to an apex*, are the proper appendages of a village. Cheltenham is happy in its old church, so far as concerns its embellishment of the view; the church itself is really good, but all large buildings require an area to show them off. Had it been possible to throw down the intervening houses, and make a large wide street from the church into the country, it would have been a great improvement, for churches show well when they form the termination of a good street. As to the *new church*, antiquaries are prejudiced critics. Hiorne's church at Tetbury is the most chaste specimen of modern Gothic in the county; all is in correct harmony as to æra. The arch of the windows is of the style of the age adopted; each window stands between two buttresses properly crocketed and pinnacled, and the parapet is embattled. At the east end is a grand large window. This is the *simple and pure* fashion of the

\* Northern Tour, i. 22.

best mediæval specimens, Redcliffe, King's College Chapel, &c. &c. and nothing can be more easy. While such fabrics exist it is the very worst form of architectural heresy, and an incontrovertible evidence of bad taste to permit any architect whatever, let his merits be what they may, to offer a NEW PLAN FOR ANY CHURCH. Why should novelty be required where improvement is impossible? However, the subject is better closed with a remark which cannot wound any feelings. There is always a rawness in modern Gothic buildings, which is incongruous. They should be stained of a sober gray, as nearly as possible to the colour of old stone.

Of modern chapels, what ought to be said? Nothing at all. *Ex nihilo nihil fit.* The street front of the New Market House is Asiatic. No scientific approbation can possibly be given to the oriental style;\* but there may be an elegance in fancy work. A kaleidoscope produces interesting arrangements of shapeless masses. One small building merits particular notice. The *Freemasons' Lodge* is an admirable imitation of an ancient Roman Mausoleum.

Cheltenham, however, is not without the usual imperfection of English towns, a miserable *entrée*

\* Its chief effect has been ascribed to elevation on a basement.

of shabby houses, but fortunately here only at one end, the Gloucester road. It is vexatious to enter palaces through a rank and file of pigsties; but it is sufficient to know that, if a poor man is an Englishman, the Constitution gives him rank in society; and he must not, as he ought not, have his rights despised. We can only wish, that such useful persons had better dwellings in other situations. It is likewise to be regretted, that the very unsightly chimney\* of the Salts Manufactory, and the coal-wharfs, (farm-yard kind of things; without the relief of the cattle accompaniments,) are not a little more out of the high road, and concealed by trees. The rail-road is also unpleasing; but beauty and utility are distinct things. The Venus de Medicis is of the finest order of female forms; but we cannot find it over the washing tub, or under a garden-basket. Nature makes beautiful conformations, and Labour spoils them. The children of Apollo and Hercules assimilate their respective parents.

\* The only *handsome* chimnies are the Turkish, engraved in Sir R. K. Porter's Persia, vol. ii. They are capped turrets with loop-holes for vents, near the top.

CHAPTER III.

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## THE LONDON ROAD.

GILPIN gives an account of the scenery between Oxford and the Cotswold in the following words: “As far as Witney, the country appears flat; though in fact it rises. About the eleventh stone the high grounds command a noble semi-circular distance on the left; and near Burford there are views of the same kind on the right, but not so extensive. None of these landscapes, however, are perfect, as they want the accompaniment of foregrounds.

“The country from Burford is high, and downy. A valley, on the right, kept pace with us; through which flows the Windrush, not indeed an object of sight, but easily traced along the meadows by pollard-willows, and a more luxuriant vegetation.

“At Barrington we had a pleasing view, through an opening on the foreground.

“About Northleach the road grows very disagreeable. Nothing appears but downs on each

side ; and these often divided by stone walls, the most offensive separation\*.”

Thus Gilpin. The Cotswold has neither wood, rock, meadow, nor water ; but the ground is thrown into large undulations. It has, however, no wood, and of course cannot have that predominance of shade over light, which is a great source of picturesque beauty†. That such a country is, however, capable of most interesting scenery is evident from the fine disposition of a country with ground precisely similar, viz. that about Kingston Inn, between Farringdon and Oxford, and the middle ground of several landscapes by Wilson. Landscape light is always best, when it falls on the middle part, and the foreground is a shadow. From this grand Paysagist may be derived the best studies and sketches for improving the present desert. The mere hacknied modes of clumping and wooding, without regard to effect, will not be sufficient. Fine selections should be made from beautiful parts in the landscapes of Wilson and the best painters, so far as such passages are suited to the ground. It is not an affair of great expence or

\* Observations on the Wye, pp. 6, 7. Ed. 4.

† Gilpin's Essays on Picturesque Beauty, p. 133.

difficulty to make these selections. They should then be grouped into one drawing, made upon scale, for it is to be remembered, that the object here is not to improve existing objects, but to make a new creation. “Deserts or desolate prospects (says Alison) are disagreeable subjects,” and the labour here required is to give expression and character to the scenery. The caution of Wheatley\* must, however, be always kept in view. The scene is a tame one, and tame scenes admit of many varieties, but few and only faint contrasts. Wood is the sole material for working with, and the disposition of this is the chief difficulty; for in an extensive landscape, which requires a wandering of the eye through successive scenes, it is a fundamental rule that no larger prospect be admitted than can easily be taken in at once. The prospect is to be split into proper parts by means of trees, and at the same time all possible variety be introduced.† The misfortune is, that gentlemen plant woods without using any other rule, than avoiding straight lines. The following rules in planting woods may therefore be useful. Surfaces of wood seen from eminences, even if

\* Ornamental Gardening, p. 20.

† Elements of Criticism, i. 442.

the woods are thin, and hanging woods on the sides of hills, which should always be thick, are noble objects, but both should be carried out of sight, and no boundary be seen beyond them. The outlines of woods should be irregular, and broken with lengthy prominences and deep recesses, but never reaching quite to the bottom. A few trees should stand out from a thicket, which belongs to a wood. Clumps should never be below the eye ; should stretch into length, and not be of a uniform size. They are useful, as breaks of continuity ; and they are good, if by their succession they diversify a long outline of wood ; if between them they form beautiful glades ; if all together, they cast an extensive lawn into an agreeable shape.\* Instead of this they are planted in circles on the tops of hills, and the sides of elevations are patched with wood, of which the whole form comes under the eye.

With regard to the Cotswold, the excellence of its husbandry, by precluding any necessity for copsing and timbering the country, to augment the landlord's returns, added to the expence of fencing, have stifled all inclination in the gentry to improve it, except around their own seats ; and wherefrom the stony soil there can be no verdant meadow

\* Wheatley, 55, 59.

and from its furnishing fences, no necessity for growth of hedge-bote, the tenant has no inducement to goad them. A change of circumstances can alone produce an amelioration. Some reasonable improvements may, however, be made, such as planting the quarries, and sheltering the farm-houses. The villages too are disgusting. They resemble cattle, of whom all the hair is worn off from famine and disease. They are only the skeletons of villages, without the muscles. Now these may, if irregular, be amended by trifling plantations; if in streets, by planting outside of them. Finally, it may be observed, that the fine wooded decorations around the seats of Lords Sherborne and Dinevor, and Mr. Laurence, of Sandywell Park, show that there is nothing incorrigible in the Cotswold, although, as it now is, it resembles a dull and tedious story about nothing, very badly told.

Two buildings on the road from Oxford to Cheltenham are especially noticeable. First, the ruins of Minster Lovell, on the right hand between Witney and Burford, in a bottom. The church being given before the 8th John (1206) to St. Mary de Ivreie, or Yvie, it became a cell to that house, and was granted to Eton College 1 Edw. IV. (1461).\* The conventional church and part of the

\* Tanner's *Notitia Monastica*.

gateway are the chief remains. These are engraved by Grose;\* but they are insipid, being only bare walls, not interesting or cloathed. Leland however mentions a mansion of the Lovel family, and in the Topographical Miscellanies, &c. it is said, that some labourers found a vault, where was seated a man richly drest, with a book before him, who fell to pieces upon the admission of air. This has been supposed the famous Lovel of Richard the Third's time, who upon his escape at the battle of Stoke, temp. Henry VII. was concealed here, and starved to death by neglect or design. Collins† admits, that it is not known how he died.—The other object is the church of North-leach, which is a fine specimen of the florid gothic, and has been repeatedly engraved.

Upon reaching Dowdeswell Hill, nature resumes her smiles. The road winds between sides of hills, undulating into swells and hollows, consisting, in elegant variety, of green meadows, hanging woods, tufted copses, scattered timber-trees, and fringed brooks. Charlton Kings is a village entirely composed of such scenery, and is enriched further by villas and shrubberies. Improved the scenery cannot be; for were it fuller

\* Antiq. iv. 180. † Peerage, vii. 560. Ed. 1769.

of wood, the views and landscape would be walled out with trees, and were it thinner, it would be bleak and a down. Mr. Prinn's park at Charlton King's, especially in the majesty of its numerous fine trees, is a grand accompaniment to the village. To add to this propitious introduction, the entrance into Cheltenham is worthy its acknowledged beauties—it is a street of elegant uniformity, in the best suburb style of the West of London. But it has an airiness which that has not. It has the resemblance, so light is it, of an atmospheric illusion created by optical deception. The houses, verandas, and iron rails, look as if they were composed of paper, silk, and netting.

## CHAPTER IV.

## THE NEW AND OLD PAINSWICK ROADS.

THE start from Cheltenham is along a dismal flat of arable ground, with here and there a stunted tree or bush. Leckhampton Hill exhibits some change, by means of the bottom rising half up in continuation: and all the hills appear with more varied and broken outlines, for Gilpin justly observes, that continuities of lines without irregular breaks are disagreeable.\* Shurdington, the first stage, is a village of motley and poor aspect, full of cottages and orchards. The cottages are merely pitched on the side of the road, not scattered about in confusion. As to orcharding, Mr. Price gives it the following just character. "When orchards are in blossom, they look like a garden, but make a scattered discordant landscape: the blossoms, so beautiful on a near view, when the different shades and gradations of their colours

\* Northern Tour, i. 82

are distinguished, at a distance lose their richness and variety, and form scenes defective in all those qualities and principles on which the painter sets a high value." Thus Mr. Price.\* Out of blossom add that orchard trees are in effect only bundles of hedging stuff, upon a stem instead of a pitch-fork. A gentleman's house in decay, with an unadorned field for paddock, appears on the left hand; on the right is the church, which has a spire like a needle, and a tower like a chimney. This is in very bad taste, for the beauty of spires depends entirely upon their proportions. That of Michel Dean is especially admired, and its length is six times the diameter of the base. The road through the village is straight, with a flat foregruond. At Horse-ferry turnpike gate the prospect mends fast. In the foreground are fine broken hills. The side scene is an amphitheatre of wood, on irregular ground, in numberless varieties. Cooper's Hill beyond is still finer. Here the ground is very broken and beautiful. Knolls, copses, and roughets, of all forms, lie about confusedly. The side ground is hill and dale, romantically varied. The middle ground is a low hill, backed by Robin's Wood Hill. In the distance is the forest of Dean; below is the

\* *Picturesque*, i. 175.

Vale of Gloucester. The beauty of a range of hills consists in their not having similar forms ; and a ridged boundary of a continued line, if long, must depend upon its varying sides for its picturesque character. Mountains only suit the close of a view. Fine effect, however, may be produced even by ridges, as about Tintern Abbey and Piercefield, if they lap over. Here nature has admirably corrected any error, through breaking the formal continuous semi-circle of the ridgy boundary by the serrated line of the Malverns, with their graceful but easy variety of up and down. Still we are not arrived at the point of view in its best state. This lies between Cooper's Hill and the turn to the old Birdlip Road. The view over the Vale of Gloucester is here in high glory. The Severn, the Cathedral, Robin's Wood Hill, are all grand points. The gentle elevations in the middle, and interspersed wood, break the low ground into distinct landscapes, so that the country seems to be composed of nothing but shrubberies and parks. Mr. Gilpin's long account, hereafter quoted at large, will show, that in his opinion, "perhaps no where in England, a distance so rich, and at the same time so extensive, can be found." Had there been more ample width in the Severn through the whole vale, the scene would have been proportionally.

ameliorated. The Welch *vales* and *vallies* are the finest which Gilpin ever saw, and this wants their rocks, cascades, and mountainous ridges and protuberances, to make the scene romantic, however grand it may be. Church Down, of which hereafter, assumes in this view somewhat of a picturesque aspect. The road here is too an additional advantage. It winds in an amphitheatre round the interior of a hill, clothed to the summit with beech-wood. Soon after this we turn abruptly round, through a wood of copse and timber, into the Old Painswick Road.\* This road bisects wood of the last character, and such a wood is far more picturesque and pleasing in the interior, than one of mere timber trees, the trunks of which rise perpendicular at equal distance in bristles like a brush. Here patches of verdure are interspersed between underwood, springing in tufts from old stools, and timber trees, single, irregular, or in small thickets. These not being forced upwards for want of room, spread their branches in all the luxuriance

\* The varied effects of light and shadow are seen in forest scenery, where wild tangled thickets open into glades, half-seen across the stems of old stag-headed oaks and twisted beeches, but are lost in groves of artificial formation. Price on the Picturesque, i. 124.

of nature.\* A mile's drive, or thereabouts, along this interesting road brings us to the mouth of a lane, which is the way to be taken. It winds along the concave side of a hilly wood of poles. A short turn to the right leads to a rich slope. Upon this declivity stands the

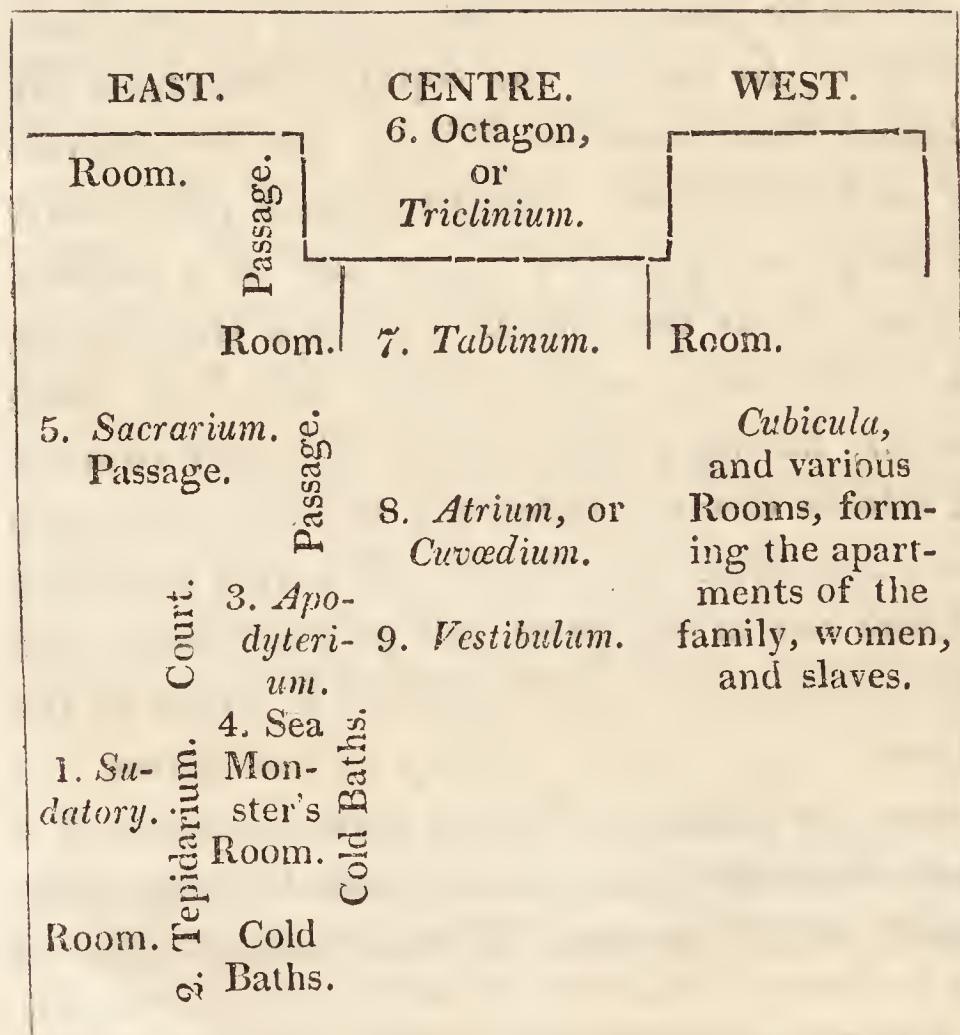
#### ROMAN VILLA.

No spot in this island (says Mr. Lysons) could perhaps be pointed out more likely to have been fixed on, by one of the superior officers of the Roman Government in Britain, for the erection of such an edifice. The situation is particularly striking, being on the upper part of a sloping ground, near the foot of Cooper's Hill, facing the south east; well sheltered with fine beech woods, having a small stream of water running at a little distance below it; and commanding a very agreeable near view, and a very extensive distant one of the great vale of the Severn, and the mountainous district beyond it, which in the Roman times was the country of the Silures. It lies at the distance of about three-quarters of a mile from the great Roman road leading down Birdlip Hill, between the two Roman cities of

\* In planting woods, where underwood is also grown, the trees should be set 35 feet mutual distance. *Marshall.*

*Corinium* (Cirencester) and *Glevum* (Gloucester), and about two miles and a quarter from the camp on the summit of Painswick Hill.\*

To copy the details in the *Archæologia* would be to little purpose, with regard to a visitor not a professed antiquary. It may be better, therefore, to give that sort of account which, by aid of the following plan, renders the exhibition intelligible at sight.



\* *Archæologia*, xix. 179.

The form of the building is that of the capital letter H, with the middle bar more in the rear, that is to say, it is three sides of a square. One side has been most satisfactorily explained, viz. that of the baths, in the *Archæologia*. Of the rest I shall endeavour to give an account from the remains of houses in Italy. The visitor will be ushered first to two or three thatched buildings, each containing tessellated pavements, and the rest open compartments, divided only by walls. In short, the plan, in all its leading features, may be thus described. The reader is desired to place himself in the centre front. Of course he has a middle and two sides to understand. The left hand range and the octagon are all which his respectable and venerable Cicerone will be able to explain to him. The left hand range consists wholly of the baths; and three of these are the only parts which are covered in. The position of the letter-press will show the plan, and explain his progress. The guide will introduce the visitor across an uncovered square room into the *Sudatory* (No. 1.),\* a little square room, with a tesse-

\* The Roman practice was this. First they entered the cooling room, the *Apodyterium*, where they undressed and were rubbed. Then they passed to the tepid room, *Tepidarium*, to get warm; and thence to

lated pavement, at one end a dwarf wall with a stuccoed cistern within it, and around the outer compartment a kind of seat in the wall. The size is ten feet by nine. The tesseræ are black, white, and red. The latter colour goes all round the border, but the tessellæ are very irregular in size. The pattern of the pavement is made up of stars, circles, squares, and lozenges. The centre is a cross within a star of four obtuse points, nearly resembling the heraldic mullet. Here we see the antiquity of quaterfoils and lozenges. It was warmed by flues from the Hypocaust, which was under the next room, the *Tepidarium* (No. 2). This last room is uncovered, and the visitor walks across it through a corner, which has a very curious oblique doorway, into No. 3, the *Apodyterium* or *dressing-room*. Mr. Lysons thus describes this room, "It is 131 feet 6 inches by 12 feet 10 inches. The walls, which remained to the height of from 4 feet to 5 feet 4 inches, were plastered and painted in pannels; on three sides were funnels, laid horizontally at the height of about 2 feet from the floor, communicating with others placed upright, for conveying heat from

the *Sudatory*, or perspiring room, which adjoined the hot baths. Some took the cold bath only. Encyclopædia of Antiquities, i. 46.

the Hypocaust, the fire-place of which was an arch, 3 feet 4 inches wide, under the wall of this room in the court adjoining. The pavement consists of nine octagonal compartments, five of which enclosed circles; the whole being connected by a single guilloche, an ornament resembling the chain of a curb bit, and formed into a square by a double one. This square is bordered on three sides by a single fret, and on the fourth by a double one. In the centre of the pavement is the figure of an urn with ivy leaves. The outlines of all the ornaments and the frets are of tesseræ, formed of the hard argillaceous stone called blue lyas; the guilloches, &c. which are red, a light yellowish brown, and white, are composed of a white calcareous stone, a brown clay stone, and a fine sort of brick. This room communicated with the hot bath (No. 1.), the *Sudatory*, by the corner door, and the cold baths (No 4.), the sea monster's room, by a middle door.

This room (No. 5.) is 19 feet 8 inches by 17 feet 4 inches, and has a mosaic pavement, ornamented with figures of fish and sea monsters, in blue on a white ground, enclosed within a border formed by a double fret. This pavement has been much injured by the slipping down of the ground on which it was laid, and some parts are separated by cracks to the extent of several

inches. On two sides are *Baptisteria* or cold baths, the one semi-circular, 8 feet 6 inches diameter, floored with brick tiles, 16 inches by  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , and plastered on the sides; the other oblong, and 19 feet 8 inches by 7 feet 3 inches, and covered with a coat of stucco 8 inches thick at the bottom, and 2 inches thick on the sides.\*

These are the rooms which are covered in and are shown first. The *Sacrarium* (No. 5.) was a place of worship like a private chapel. A passage 6 feet wide led, by a descent of several steps, to this room. The walls, which remained nearly to the same height as those of the room, were plastered and painted in pannels, formed by stripes of light blue and orange colour, on a white ground, having elegant ornaments of ivy leaves, &c. between them. In this passage and the adjoining room were found Roman coins of the lower empire, and many bones of animals, among which were several sculls of bullocks and goats, with fragments of stag's horns, and an iron axe, similar in form to that which frequently appears among the instruments of sacrifice in bas reliefs and on coins. The stone just within the door way, separated from the pavement by a border of brick tiles, seems to have been the

\* *Archæologia*, xix, 181.

base of an altar. On the east side were three projections or buttresses, 1 foot 6 inches square, carried to the top of the wall and resting on a plinth, about four inches above the level of the floor, which recesses were probably designed for the reception of statues, as well as to strengthen the wall built against the high ground. Nearly in the middle was a cistern,  $20\frac{3}{4}$  by  $22\frac{1}{4}$  inches, and 2 feet 1 inch in depth, formed by four of the red sand stones of the forest of Dean placed upright, the bottom being of clay. A *piscina*, or cistern, was a common appendage of Roman places of worship.

On the outside of this building was found the figure of a lyre, cut in stone, 2 feet  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, and part of another, probably remains of a ballustrade or parapet.

Near here are exhibited the hypocaust and a semi-circular Roman arch, 2 feet broad and 9 inches deep, without a keystone.

We now proceed to the centre.

Mr. Lysons has given no account of this part. It must therefore be supplied from other sources.\* The first space (No. 9.) appears to have been the *Vestibulum*, or recess, outside the door. The

\* These are chiefly the Pompeiana and works quoted in the Encyclopedia of Antiquities.

wall behind it belonged to the façade or front. What this was it is impossible to tell; but one is engraved in the *Pompeii of Mazois*.\* It consists of a basement of rustic work, in which, or the ground floor is a door way, ascended by steps between two pilasters. Over this are three oblong square windows, a cornice, and escalloped parapet. The house of Pansa in the *Pompeiana* is different, having only a handsome door way, with recesses for shops on each side.

Next to this is the *Atrium* or *Cavædium* (No. 8.), which was probably adorned with a peristyle, of the columns of which one remains. It was similar in principle to the modern hall of our old houses, which, indeed, was borrowed from it. It is plain, from the Roman houses at Pompeii, that they were by no means of uniform pattern.

Beyond this is an oblong room (No. 7.), which, according to the plan in the *Pompeiana*, should be the *Tablinum*, or intervening room, so called from its ornament of pictures, and used as a business room, occasionally for dining. Beyond this is the *Octagon* or *Triclinium* (No. 6.), the eating room.

In Pliny's villa all the rooms seem to have been on a floor, without upper stories except in a

\* *Vignette*, p. 42.

tower where the eating room was. This tower was full of windows on all sides, for the sake of light and prospect.\* An engraving† from a picture found in the Thermæ of Titus will show one of these towers, at the base of which is an oblong room, ascended by steps exactly like this ; and therefore it may be justifiably presumed that this *Octagon* was a tower like that described. This was probably domed.

The western range seems to have been entirely composed of the family apartments, viz. *Cubicula* or bed rooms, always very small, with passages in which slaves used to wait and sleep ; (See the account of the death of Pliny, and the remains of a villa at Tusculum.)‡ the *Gynæconitis*, or women's apartments ; and the culinary, baking, and other offices, some subterraneous, for the use of the house and residence of the slaves. One of these *souterreins* was large. The uses of these rooms are plainly shewn by querns or hand-mills for the *Pistrinum* being found. Another was a *laundry*, for in the wall between, are several large upright stones, some of them four feet

\* *Et turre ab altâ, prospicis meras laurus.* Martial.

† In Montfauc. l'Antiq. expliq. vol. iii, p. i, b. iii, c. 13.

‡ Encyclopædia of Antiquities, v. *servants*. Passages were not only for thoroughfares, but for the use of servants as above.

high, resting on plinths. Several large pieces of pit-coal, with coal-ashes, were found in this part of the building.\*

The pavement of the octagon was very rude. Mr. Lysons says, that it was composed of squares of five inches, and some triangles of a white calcareous stone and blue lyas. As tiles of a rhomboidal form were found in the Roman villa at Colesbourne in this county, and, indeed, several pieces which I saw here were of all shapes, but pierced at one corner for a peg, part of the roofing may be presumed to have been formed of these.

The distinctions of this villa seem to have been these ; Roman baths, perhaps the most complete example ever discovered in this country, and entire doorways composed of upright stones. One in the corner of a room placed obliquely is very curious. Doors not bigger than coach-doors occur at Pompeii. Here one of these is 6 feet 2 inches high ; another is only 1 foot 11 inches wide.

This building, from the coins found, appears to have been built between the times of Constantine the Great and Valens ; indeed the form

\* These appropriations are made from plates of existing remains in the Pompeiana and *Archæologia*, vol. iv.

of the column still remaining is evidently of a barbarous æra. It has a large base and very slender disproportionate shaft. A statera or steel-yard, an ivory comb, a stone mortar, an iron plough-share, *fibulæ*, buckles, pins, a British hatchet of flint,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, &c. have been found. Too much praise cannot be given to the amiable liberality with which Sir William Hicks, Bart. the proprietor, permits access to these valuable remains. It is much, however, to be feared, that the stone of the country being subject to frost, the exposed walls will perish, and perhaps it might be better to cover *these* up again, only leaving as much of them out of the ground as will shew the plan.

Of the artificial ridge and hillock near the villa, see Chap. VI.

The situation of the villa is very fine, and the view deserves especial notice, for it exactly accords with the principle of Mr. Price, the picturesque borrowed from nature only. But *nature has no foregrounds*; and as it would be absurd to place large stones with brambles and weeds, &c. &c. which make the fore grounds of pictures, under drawing room windows, *landscape painting* and *landscape gardening* cannot be wholly conducted upon similar principles. Yet whoever has seen the Rev. Mr. Ferryman's flower-bank sub-

titutes at Kingscote, will admit that excellent *imitative* fore grounds *may be placed near windows*. In the grounds laid out by that gentleman, landscape gardening and landscape painting are admirably reconciled. To return. The villa stands facing the S. E. on the slope of a hill, within a fine amphitheatre of hanging wood. In the distance are ridges, the outlines of which lap over, a circumstance not very common in these elevations, but favourable to the picturesque. The connecting ground consists of thickets, natural clumps, hollows filled with wood, trees in hedge-rows, and along the sinuosities of brooks, all capriciously scattered by nature, in her tasteful abhorrence of formality. The *koilon* of the amphitheatre is composed of ground in *vomitoria* or *radii*, of grotesque and undulating pattern, uniting at the bottom, like sticks of a fan. This bottom is the village, which consists of detached houses, and tall trees in the hedge-rows. In this village is the seat of the baronet.

There is another and a shorter road, though far less interesting, to the villa ; but returning to the Old Painswick Road, and proceeding to the left, we soon come to

## MR. TODD'S COTTAGES.

This is an artificial hamlet of cottages, in evident good fancy taste. Two united cottages form a ground floor and single story, for the residence of the proprietor. The windows are gothic. It is to be regretted that the rooms have cross lights, for the view in front being delightful, a mirror should be placed opposite each window. A second groupe of cottages, close adjoining, forms the kitchen and offices. A seeming range of cattle-sheds at a small distance is adapted within to dancing. Behind the cottages is a barn *ornée*, for a billiard room. The front view is a narrow verdant valley, descending between woods, having at the bottom some ponds and a mill. As to the ponds they are formal, and so indeed are all pieces of water dammed up, which are not of an impetuous torrent character, and which being hemmed in only by rocks fall in cataracts. From certain points of view says Repton,\* pools, though on different levels, will take the appearance of a lake or river, if the junctions are broken by brush wood; but ponds may be deprived of their formality, by being partially seen through rocks or

\* Inquiry, p. 92.

wood ; or by altering the shape of the pond to that of a river, and concealing the commencement and termination ; i. e. by making the water issue from behind a bank, thickly planted, and withdraw from view under cover of another bank, also planted : or it may issue from a rock. Water seen through a gothic arch is also very pleasing.

To return ; in the distance, a staring shaggy point of Painswick beacon looks here, truly sublime, being a promontory of rock, so lofty as scarcely to leave any sky above it. The shrubbery around the cottages is a brocade of lawns and shrubs intermixed, in fancy patterns, with gravel walks in various directions, which wind into the woods. The situation is exquisite ; indeed the selection of it does the proprietor great honour.

Passing on by this road towards Cheltenham we soon come to Birdlip, the open heights, and the great Roman road from Cirencester to Gloucester, which runs straight for six miles across the vale. Mr. Gilpin was much delighted with the grand prospect, and it is described as follows by that master. “ I know not (he says) that I was ever more struck with the singularity and grandeur of any landscape. Nature generally brings different countries together in some easy mode of connection. If she raises the grounds on one side by a long ascent, she commonly unites them

with the country on the other in the same easy manner. Such scenes we view without wonder or emotion. We glide without observation from the near grounds to the more distant. All is gradual and easy. But when nature works in the bold and singular style of composition in which she works here, when she raises a country through a progress of a hundred miles, and then breaks it down at once, by an abrupt precipice, into an expansive vale, we are immediately struck with the novelty and grandeur of the scene.

It was the vale of Severn which was spread before us. Perhaps no where in England, a distance so rich, and at the same time so extensive, can be found. We had a view of it almost from one end to the other, as it wound through the space of many leagues in a direction nearly from West to North. The eye was lost in the profusion of objects which were thrown at once before it, and ran wild over the vast expanse with rapture and astonishment before it could compose itself enough to make any coherent observations. At length we began to examine the detail, and to separate the vast immensity before us into parts.

To the North we looked up the vale along the course of the Severn. The town of Cheltenham lay beneath our feet, then at the distance of two

or three miles. The vale appeared afterwards confined between Bredon hills on the right, and those of Malvern on the left. Right between these, in the middle of the vale, lay Tewksbury, bosomed in wood. The great church, even at this distance, made a respectable appearance. A little to the right, but in distance very remote, we might see the towers of Worcester, if the day were clear, especially if some accidental gleam of light relieved them from the hills of Shropshire, which close the scene.

To the West we looked toward Gloucester; and here it is remarkable, that as the objects in the northern part of the vale are confined by the hills of Malvern and Bredon; so in this view the vale is confined by two other hills, which though inconsiderable in themselves, give a character to the scene; and the more so as they are both insulated. One of these hills is known by the name of Robin's-wood; the other by that of Church-down, from the singularity of a church seated on its eminence. Between these hills the great object of the vale is the city of Gloucester, which appeared rising over rich woody scenes. Beyond Gloucester the eye still pursued the vale into remote distance, till it united with a range of mountains.

Still more to the West arose a distant forest

view, composed of the woods of the country, uniting with the forest of Dean. Of this view the principal feature is the mouth of the Severn, where it first begins to assume a character of grandeur by mixing with the ocean. We see only a small portion of it stretching in an acute angle over a range of wood. But an eye used to perspective seeing such a body of water, small as it appears, wearing any *determined form* at such a distance, gives it credit for its full magnitude. The Welch mountains also, which rise beyond the Severn, contributed to raise the idea ; for by forming an even horizontal line along the edge of the sea, they gave it the appearance of what it really is, an arm of the sea.

Having thus taken a view of the vast expanse of the vale of Severn from the extemity of the descent of Cotswold, we had leisure next to examine the grandeur of the descent itself, which forms a foreground not less admirable than the distance. The lofty ridge on which we stood is of great extent ; stretching beyond the bounds of Gloucestershire, both towards the North and towards the South. It is not every where, we may suppose of equal beauty, height, and abruptness ; but fine passages of landscape, I have been told, abound in every part of it. The spot where we took this view over the vale of Severn

is the high ground on Crickley Hill, which is a promontory standing out in the vale between the villages of Leckhampton and Birdlip. Here the descent consists of various rocky knolls, prominences, and abruptnesses, among which a variety of roads wind down the steep towards different parts of the vale, and each of these roads through its whole varying progress, exhibits some beautiful view, discovering the vale either in whole or in part, *with every advantage of a picturesque foreground.*\*

Many of these precipices also are finely wooded. Some of the largest trees in the kingdom, perhaps, are to be seen in these parts. The Cheltenham oak, and an elm not far from it, are trees which curious travellers always inquire after.

“ Many of these hills which inclose the vale of Severn on this side, furnish landscapes themselves, without borrowing assistance from the vale. The woody vallies, which run winding among them, present many pastoral scenes. The clothing country about Stroud is particu-

\* Prospects in general are not fit subjects for pictures or landscapes, because they have not foregrounds or middle distances. Here, therefore, we have a fine exception, for this prospect is not in Gilpin’s phrase, *a map*; and Titian has proved, that to take the point of sight *high*, may frequently have a very grand effect.

larly diversified in this way, though many of these vallies are greatly injured in a picturesque light, by introducing scenes of habitation and industry. A cottage, a mill, or a hamlet, among trees, may often add beauty to a rural scene; but when houses are scattered through every part, the moral sense can never make a convert of the picturesque eye. Stroud-water valley especially, which is one of the most beautiful of these scenes, has been deformed not only by a number of buildings,\* but by a canal cut through the middle of it.

Among the curiosities of these high grounds is the Seven-Well-Head of the Thames. In a plain near the road, a few limpid springs gushing from a rock, give origin to this noblest of English rivers, though I suppose several little streams in that district might claim the honour with equal justice, if they could bring over the public opinion.† The point of view from which

\* Especially the manufactories. Price says that nothing can equal them in *dis-beautifying* an enchanting piece of scenery; that they contaminate the most interesting views, and are so tall that there is no escaping from them in any part. i. 198.

† Observations on the Wye, 7—13. The real head of the Thames furthest from London, commences, as I am credibly informed, at Sevenhampton.

this was taken, is stated to be Crickley Hill. Here is one of the fortresses of the Dobuni.

*Leckhampton Hill*.—This is the next object, and a very bad one. The *ought to be* is utterly deficient, as will appear from the following necessary characteristics of good rock scenery. It has large patches of chalk, which Gilpin\* says, spoil a landscape; and Price† adds, “If we suppose a single object of a glaring white to be introduced, the whole attention, in spite of all our efforts to the contrary, will be drawn off to that one point; in short, it will have the effect of an instrument out of tune in a concert.” Add from Mr. Lock, that white, by bringing the objects too near the eye, disturbs the aerial perspective and the gradation of distance. So little is this effect of white understood, that a gentleman once intended to white-wash Coldwell rocks on the Wye, that he might make them conspicuous. Near Taunton is a church and spire, white-washed from the vane to the ground. It is also admitted that vegetation should always accompany rocks, and even shrubs or bushes without trees may be a sufficiency of wood; for brushy underwood may hide unsightly heaps of fragments and rubbish, cover blemishes and bad

\* Northern Tour, i. 21.

† Vol. i. p. 161.

shapes in rocks, and embellish and diversify the scenery of them. Nevertheless, without large trees, such scenery is void of grandeur. These should be single trees, not clumps, and be impending over rocks in interesting positions. Besides, wildness should accompany rock scenery, even licentious irregularities of ground and wood.\* “Rocks are not objects,” says Gilpin,† “which are beautiful in themselves. Bleak, naked, and unadorned, a rock is a lump; and a lump is that unshapen form which can never be sublime or picturesque. Tint it with mosses and lichens of various hues, and you give it a degree of beauty. Adorn it with shrubs and hanging herbage, and you make it still more picturesque. Connect it with wood and water and broken ground, and you make it in the highest degree interesting. The village of Leckhampton, on the left hand, and the seat of Mr. Trye, appear to be well wooded and interesting.

On the right further on is Charlton King’s, a variegated village of well-dressed villas and shrubberies, nodding at each other in neighbourly amity. Mr. Prynne’s seat and park is a noble figure in the group, from the majesty of its ancient trees. They confer a truly grand

\* Wheatley, 95-104.

† On the Wye.

aspect, and this in despite of some formalizing clumps\* of firs, things which ought never to be

\* Formal clumps having disfigured the county at large, Mr. Price's character of them is properly introduced here; every Zephyr at Cheltenham ought to exhale taste. "Natural groups being formed by trees of different ages and sizes, and at different distances from each other, often too, by a mixture of those of the largest size, with thorns, hollies, and others of inferior growth, are full of variety in their outlines; and from the same causes no two groups are exactly alike. But clumps, from the trees being generally of the same age and growth, from their being planted nearly at the same distance in a circular form, and from each tree being equally pressed by his neighbour, are as like each other as so many puddings turned out of one common mould. Natural groups are full of openings and hollows, of trees advancing before, or retiring behind each other, all productive of intricacy, of variety, of deep shadows and brilliant lights; in walking about them the form changes at each step, new combinations, new lights and shades, new inlets present themselves in succession. But clumps, like compact bodies of soldiers, resist attacks from all quarters, examine them in every point of view, walk round and round them; no opening, no vacancy, no stragglers, but in the true military character, *ils font face partout.*" (i. 245.) I should add a happy idea of Mr. Price's (i. 154, 278), that clumps of heavy firs are *blots* or *dabs of ink* upon a fine scene. In Claude's paintings trees in clumps have their stems

seen in parks, and which here are just as incongruous as surgical figures would be by the side of the Farnesian Hercules or Atlas."

half concealed in bushes and thickets; others stand alone, but by means of those thickets, or of detached trees, are connected with other groups of various sizes and shapes. Mr. Repton admits that clumps are only necessary, where flat lawns require masses, and old trees cannot be preserved. *Id. iii. 12.*

## CHAPTER IV.

## THE WINCHCOMBE ROAD.

JUST out of the turnpike, the scenery is as follows:—Cleeve Clouds in front with naked sides ; flats or plateaux with gentle swells and hollows, more open than close ; elms in hedge-rows ; arable ground ; meadow on the right. Prestbury is called a pretty village, but it has nothing striking. It is a clean-looking village with good houses and green fields. Bakewell was a master in the *beau ideal* of fat, and the scenery of fertile meadows may be characterized by a similarity to one of his favourite animals, all flesh and no bone, sleek and smooth, but the picturesque has nothing to do with ivory or downy surfaces. Turn short to the right—on that side are skirting hills, pleasing meadows below, with broken ground and wood beneath ; in the distance a hill ; the foreground is plain meadow and trees, and a winding road, generally

a thing of great scenic importance. On the left are close cottages. At the distance of two miles, a tuft of firs on a ridge on the right, and broken ground, show off a craggy back-ground in a picturesque form. The scenery is rather irregular ; had it been more so, it would have had more romantic beauties, and been a great relief.

On the left hand is SOUTHAM, a very fine old mansion, engraved in Sir Robert Atkyns and the Gentleman's Magazine.\* Sir John Huddleston, Knight, purchased an estate here, and built this mansion in 1501. Kinnard De La Bere, Esq. of a very ancient family, obtained it by marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Huddleston.† The last Kinnard De La Bere dying without issue, William Baghot, son of Kinnard's eldest sister Anne, succeeded, and taking the name of De La Bere, was father of Thomas Baghot De La Bere, Esq. who recently held it. Upon his decease it devolved to .....

The crest of the De La Bere family, is ostrich feathers issuing out of a ducal coronet, which crest was presented to Sir Richard De La Bere,

\* For November 1824.

† No such marriage, among many splendid alliances, occurs in Sir Robert Atkyn's pedigree or mine, from MS. Harl. 2121.

for the signal service of rescuing the Black Prince at the battle of Cressy.\*

The house is certainly one of those precious objects, which, like an ancestral castle, combined as it is with such high family pretensions in its possessors, no noble minded descendant would destroy, no more than he would part with the old family plate or paintings. But it ought not to be offensive to state, as the motives are honourable, that justice is not done to it. The house is far too denuded. It ought to stand, in character, either at the bottom of a vista, or be accompanied with a rookery. The offices which swallow up the house by their extent, and draw the eye to themselves,† should be broken by dividing and grouping them with trees;‡ but these trees should be round headed, for no others harmonize with Gothic buildings.||

To proceed onwards. The road continues winding between knolls, agreeable, but not ro-

\* A print of this is engraved in Bigland's Gloucestershire, and published also in the Illustrations of Fosbroke's Encyclopedia of Antiquities.

† A building of greater length than the house, becomes a riyal rather than a humble attendant. Repton, p. 29.

‡ Knight upon Taste, p. ii. c. 2. § 95, p. 221, Ed. 4.

|| Repton's Inquiry, 79, 80.

mantic, being of mere undulating ground. By contracting the view, they fall, however, into pleasing, temperate landscape. Upon the whole, the scene has good village pretensions.

### *Rise to Cleeve Hill.*

Close on the right, is some ground finely broken. The left is open. Cleeve Clouds has here its most picturesque appearance as a back ground. At the foot are knolls irregularly scattered and of varied shapes. On a hollow in the rise of the road, the view consists of sheep downs, on the left declivities of small fields, fenced in, but naked and void of trees. The whole aspect is very bare and sterile. But here it is to be observed, that new roads can never have the beauty of *old* ones. They are cut for mere purposes of convenience, shortening distances, avoiding hills, business objects, or such indispensable humiliations. There is a picturesque character in old roads and lanes, which appears to be as incapable of impartition in new cuts, as “putting old heads on young shoulders.” Every one must feel the fine poetical contrasts between new and old lanes, in the very excellent descriptions of

Mr. Price,\* though he must know that these grand features cannot be subjects of quick or artificial creation, or of general possibility. A road over a plain must entirely depend upon the circumjacent objects for its good effect. Shut it close up in a rich, flat country, with good distances. A dead sameness ensues when travelling along a ditch. Mr. Knight (*Taste*, p. ii. c. 2. § 106, p. 230) shows that nothing can be done with new roads, without injuring their use.

The grand circumstance in this elevation is, however, the view over the vale of Gloucester. The finest part is perhaps where the eye stretches over Cleeve church among the trees, for here is a beautiful foreground. A house built by Sir Robert Strachan, now a farm residence, is surrounded by wood, stands upon a knoll and overlooks Cleeve valley. This house and the valley adjacent are picturesque and interesting. The Great Vale is here a tamer assimilation of the beautiful Welch specimens. There are high grounds behind in amphitheatre. The Severn is seen in places. There are pretty knolls, but there is not a sufficiency of broken ground to make the scene look romantic, for roughness,

\* *Picturesque*, i. 25-29, a classical elegant work.

sudden variation, and irregularity, are the most efficient causes of the picturesque, beauty being a distinct thing dependant on gradual mutation. The hills are mere downs, all ridges not varied, and frequently disfigured by straight lines on the sides like terraces. The road, however, winds so as to give perpetual changes, such as they are, i. e. to little purpose, for where from nakedness there is no light or shade, there can be no effect. Upon the first descent the road winds along the feet of elevations, bare and without trees. In front is high ground partially wooded, but far too thin. Here and there are patches, but the general scene is baldness without dignity. The outline is ridge, but too straight, uniform, and regular. Upon further descent, the ground breaks between bleak fields and downs. Below is the Tower of Winchcombe Church. On the left over it is a fine hill in the distance, by way of back-ground, agreeably varied. It is like the vermillion glow on the cheek of a consumptive invalid, for the rest of the scenery is ghastly.

Winchcombe was formerly famous for an Abbey. King Offa is said to have built a nunnery here in 787, and King Kenulph in 798 to have changed it into an abbey. The introduction of the "Legend of St. Kenelm," enters so largely

into the history of this town and monastery, that it is worth while to give it at large.

“ Saynte Kenelme, marter, was Kynge of a parte of Englond, by Walys. Hys fader was kyng tofore hym, and was named Kenulphe, and founded thabbaye of Wynchcombe, and sette theryn monkes. And when he was deed he was beryed in the same abbey, yt tyme Wynchcombe was the beste town of ye countre. In Englond ben thre priucipall ryvers, and they ben thamysse, severn, and humber. This Kyng Kenelme was kynge of Worcetershyre, Warrykshyre, and Gloucetreshyre. And the Byshop of Worcetre was Byshop of those thre Shyres. And he was kynge also of Derbyshyre, Cesshyre, Shropshire, Herfordshyre, Notinghamshyre, Northamtonshyre, Bokinghamshyre, Oxfordshyre, Leycestreshyre, and Lincolnshyre, all thys was called the Marche of Wales. And of all those countrees Saint Kenelme was kynge, and Wyrchecombe (*sic*) yt tyme was chief cyte of all these shyres, and in that tyme were in Englond syxe kynges, and before Oswolde hadde be kynge of all Englonde.

“ And after hym it was deprated (*sic*) in Saynte Kenelmes dayes, Kenulf his fader was a full holy man, and Dornemyll and Quendred weren susters of Saint Kenelme. Kenulfe his fader deyed

the yere of our Lorde heyght hundred and xix.

“ Thenne was Kenelme made Kynge, whan he was seven yere of age. And his suster Dornemyl lovyd hym moche, and they lyved holily togyder to theyre lyves ende; but Quindre y<sup>e</sup> other suster torned her to wickednesse, and had grete envye at her broder Kenelme bycause he was so ryche above her, and laboured wyth all her power to destroy him by cause she wold by (be) Quene and regne after hym.”

The Legend then proceeds to state, that she tried to poison Kenelme, but that it did not affect him. She then practised with Askoberde, the Prime Minister, to despatch him, which he accordingly did, and decollated him. This happened in a place called Cowbage in the wood of Clent. There, a widow kept a cow, which always looked fat and well. Some time after a dove dropped a scroll thus inscribed :

“ In Clent in Caubage, Kenelme Kynge barn  
Lyeth under a thorn, his hede of shorne,”

upon the altar of the Pope at St. Peter’s church in Rome. The Pope sent to the Archbishop of Canterbury instructions to seek the body, which was found by means of the white cow. The body was accordingly excavated and carried to Winchcombe. The Queen then inquiring what the bell-ringing on the occasion meant, was told

“ howe her broder Kenelme was broughte wyth processyon into Thabbeye, and yt the belles rongen without mannes helpe ; and thanne she sayd in grete scorne, that is as treue, sayd she, as both myne eyen falle upon thys booke, and anone bothe her eyen fell out of her hede upon the booke.”\*

Speed says, that after the murder of Kenelm, his body was buried by the side of his father. The abbey is completely destroyed ; but Mr. Browne of Winchcombe, a gentleman perfectly versed in the antiquities of this neighbourhood, informed the author of this work, that two coffins were found in the interior of the site of the abbey church, towards the high altar. One was supposed to belong to Kenwulf, and in the smaller was found a knife, about twelve or fourteen inches long, presumed to be that of Kenelm, and now in the possession of Mr. Phytian, a surgeon of this place.

The Abbey was afterwards very magnificent, but not more than the town in the Anglo-Saxon æra. It was walled round, had a castle, was a distinct county, and composed of several streets. It had a Boothall under a Guildhall, and carried on a considerable trade.† The *Mercurius Aulicus*

\* *Golden Legend*, fol. cxii. Ed. 1503.

† *Fosbroke's Gloucestershire*, ii. 345, seq.

cus of January 30, 1642-3, calls it “a town of good trading.” Tobacco was formerly grown about this place.\*

The parish-church, which is handsome, was built in the reign of Henry VI. It closely adjoins the site of the Abbey, now an ornamented paddock. The gargoyle or water-spouts of monstrous figures have been much noticed. The fashion was primarily derived from the theatrical masks,—they were used for this purpose at Pompeii.

SUDELEY CASTLE stands upon a *plateau* or elevated table ground. The view to the West is the town of Winchcombe, the middle ground generally flat with little inequalities. The distance is a ridge in amphitheatre all round, except a small dip into the vale like a defile. In short, the situation is that of a Greek Temple or Roman station, a knoll surrounded by heights. But Grecian Temples, from the nature of the architecture, will bear to be viewed in nudity, not so castles. It is a misfortune that this is quite naked, mere walls and ground. It is a pure study for the antiquary only. If it was beautifully broken by tasteful planting, with relation

\* *Speculum Anglorum*, 203.

to showing off the great east-window, and the chapel in particular, the effect might be very imposing.

The *Botelers* inherited this estate from the Sudeleys, in the end of Edward the Third's reign. Sir Robert Atkyns says,\* Ralph Le Botiler created Baron of Sudely 20 H. VI. and Lord Treasurer of England, built the castle out of the spoils which he got in the wars with France. He having been admiral at sea, took *Portman*, a *Frenchman*, prisoner, with whose ransom he built one of the towers, which from his name was called Portman's Tower. He was always firm to the Lancaster line, but King Edward IV. attaining the crown, he was apprehended at Sudeley Castle, and brought prisoner to London, and looking back upon Sudeley Castle, when he came to the top of the hill, he was heard to say, “Sudeley Castle, thou art the traitor, not I.” It is stated in an ancient MS. printed by Dugdale,† to have been “a very ample castle” built by the Botelers, but it underwent afterwards great alterations, it is said, by the Lord Admiral Seymour of Sudeley, to whom it was granted 1 Edw. VI. Upon his attainder it was re-granted, 5 Edw. VI. to William

\* P. 70.

† Monasticon, i. 995, old edition.

Parr, Marquess of Northampton, also attainted. John Bruges, who had been constable of the castle t. Henry VIII. obtained the grant 1. Mar. and was created Lord Chandos of Sudeley. A successor, George Lord Chandos, having no male issue, settled this estate upon Jane his second wife, who, marrying afterwards George Pitts, Esq. had issue George, ancestor of Lord Rivers, who held this manor in 1807. It has since been sold to the Duke of Buckingham. The castle certainly was altered at various times, so much so, that indeed very little of the Boteler Castle remains. That remainder is the part called the Nursery, which connects the court with the great hall. The ruins consist of a large unroofed barn, forming one side of a court. Upon crossing this court, the castle (more properly speaking “castellated mansion”) is itself entered under a gatehouse, which opens into an oblong square full of windows, eight on each floor on both sides. There are also four doors on each side, but, it is said, now at least without staircases. One date over a door is 1572, the other is 1614. This profusion of windows is indicative of the sixteenth century, and Sudeley might justly be called the “castle of windows,” for it has as much window as wall. The gallery of

York Place, built by Cardinal Wolsey, is stated to have had fourteen windows.\* At the upper end of this court, opposite the gate-house, (as usual) is the Great Hall, *as called*, almost all composed of large windows. This *pretended* Great Hall was the family dining chamber. It is remarkable for a fire place beneath a window, and was at the East end, being almost entirely composed of windows, erected at various times, making that end like a conservatory. A considerable number of small holes are still seen in the walls, for hanging the tapestry, which was moved about with the family. In a corner is a door descending from the dining chamber into the *real* great hall, which was adjoining, there being probably a window out of the dining chamber to look into the Great Hall. The fire-place is eleven feet wide. In a stair-case turret is the perforation of a cannon shot, which was fired during the civil wars.

But the richest indeed, and almost perfect remain, is the chapel, a beautiful fabric of the end of the fifteenth and beginning of the sixteenth centuries. On the spandrils of the arch, at the West door, are the effigies of a King and Queen. From the costume of both, they appear to have

\* Ellis's Letters on English History, ii. 15.

been of the sixteenth century,\* and probably were intended for Henry VIII. (though the face is not his portrait, but rather resembles Jas. I.) and Catharine Parr, here buried. Seats of the officiating minister, and a small piscina of elegant tabernacle work, still remain. On the side of the door, by the seats, one window has the mullions placed aslant, for the purpose of commanding a view of the Host. It communicated with a pew apparently belonging to the family, and now destroyed. The East window has five lights, the arch sharper than that of the fifteenth century in general. There are five windows on each side. The western entrance has a tower and turret upon it. Angels support the groins of the roof. The parishioners assemble for divine worship in a kind of side ile. So perfect however is the chapel, that its substitution for the church instead of the ile is easy, and is much to be desired, for the sake of its perfect preservation. An historical circumstance of note is connected with this chapel, namely its being the place of interment of Catharine Parr, last Queen of Henry VIII. She was the daughter of Sir

\* See Strutt's *Habits of the People of England*, pl. cxxvii. cxxxiii. cxl.

Thomas Parr, and married first to Edward Burghe, secondly to John Neville, Lord Latimer, whose widow she was, when Henry VIII. cast his affections upon her.\* She was a woman highly educated, as was then the fashion, and published some religious works. This dabbling in theology had nearly cost her her life, for *bloody* Gardiner (as the people called him) had drawn up articles against her. These fortunately were dropped by accident, and brought to her, upon which she went to the King, and he, who was humoured by her in every thing, for she was a perfect *Griselda* to HIM, upon her sickness and submission, says Fuller, signed and sealed her pardon with many kisses and embraces.† Upon the death of Henry, she married Thomas Lord Seymour of Sudeley, High Admiral of England, and in Ellis's Letters on English History,‡ are two curious epistles concerning this match. One is from the Princess Mary (afterwards Queen), rebuking the Lord Admiral for his indelicacy in soliciting *her* to interfere in his behalf with the Queen Dowager, just after her father's death. The other is from Catherine her-

\* Chalmers's Biogr. Dict. viii. 429.

† Fuller's Church Hist. book v. p. 243.

‡ ii. 149, 153.

self, appointing a private meeting with him “erly in the morning before seven o’clock, to escape observation,” and subscribing herself

“ Her yt ys and schalbe your humble true and lovyng wyffe during her lyff,

“ KATERYN THE QUENE, K. P.”

Her husband, the Lord Admiral, a most ambitious and unprincipled man, having designs upon the Princess (afterwards Queen) Elizabeth, used the Queen Dowager very ill, and she died in childbed in September 1548, not without suspicion of poison. She was buried in this chapel, and Miles Coverdale, Bishop of Exeter, in her funeral sermon, which he preached in this chapel, said for fear of Popish constructions, and at the cost of uttering a monstrous absurdity and falsehood, that “the lights, which were caried and stode aboute the corps, were for the honour of the Parson and for none other intent nor purpose.”\* Her leaden coffin having been explored in 1782 by female curiosity, her features and particularly her eyes are said to have appeared in a state of perfect preservation. Several irreverent exposures of the corpse having since taken place, the rector, Mr. Lates, and the churchwardens, have

\* Chalmers, x. 341.

caused the leaden coffin to be deposited in the Chandos vault at Sudeley. Her figure, as engraved in the *Archeologia*,\* had then totally disappeared. A tooth, very white, part of her hair, the bones, and remains of the cere cloth, which it is said was nine times wrapped round her, were yet found.† A plate of lead deposited on the breast of the coffin (a common fashion, as appears by a similar plate put upon that of Chas. I.) was inscribed as follows. “*Here lyethe Quene Kateryn, wife to King Henry the VIII., and lastly the wyfe of Thomas Lord of Sudeley, High Admirall of England, and uncle to Kyng Edward the VI. who dyed September v, MCCCCXLVIII.*”‡

In the Civil Wars Sudeley Castle was most gallantly defended by Lord Chandos on behalf of the King. Between Jan. 30 and Feb. 6, 1642-3, the Tewkesbury and Cirencester men surprised it,|| but immediately afterwards evacuated it.¶

\* V. ix. p. 1—9.

† For a similar mode of interment, See Dugdale's *Warwickshire*, 75, first edition.

‡ From a fac-simile taken by Mr. Browne of Winchcombe.

|| Perfect Diurnal n. 33, 34.

¶ Mercur. Aulic. Feb. 6.

In June, 1644, Sir William Waller besieged and took it, and the shot-hole in the tower before mentioned is said to have been made at that time, and to have killed the principal gunner.\*

### RETURN TO CHELTENHAM.

On the height, just before the turn into the New Road, the hill on the left breaks into the mountain forms of chasms, scarped sides, and deep gullies ; but they are not rocky, jagged, or elevated, so as to have sufficient boldness of character for grandeur, the *sine quā non* of the picturesque in mountain, rock, and precipice. A perpendicular rock or deep chasm, even of vast height or depth, if naked and unbroken, produces only an awful sensation.† Very pretty village scenery occurs between Southam and Prestbury. The view of Leckhampton Hill in front is perhaps its best distant aspect. It shows itself in bold outline ; has precipitous sides, and an abrupt termination at the bottom.

The entrance into Cheltenham by Winchcombe street is very pleasing, for it is full of villas and good houses. Architectural effect depends upon

\* Perfect Diurnal, June 10—17, 1644.

† Price on the Picturesque, i. 86.

symmetry ; old buildings and cottages upon irregularity and the picturesque ; and in streets, as in vistas and avenues, all inequalities injure that symmetry upon which the effect depends.\* An entrance by ornamented suburbs is an old practice in excellent taste. The street of the tombs at Pompeii is beautiful and interesting. A good anticipation leads the mind to the best objects of the interior, and weakens the impression of the bad. Besides that interior is best adapted to objects of business or general resort, because of shortest access from all points alike, like the centre of a circle. Great improvements may be made here by copying Cheltenham. Gentlemen might cause the villages on their estates to be wooded in all the waste patches and corners, and, as the roads generally wind, adorn the entrances not with dressed artificial lanes, for they look as if made by a receipt,† but with trees, planted thick where there are unsightly objects to be concealed, or no view to be caught. Nothing is more easy of creation than an interesting village. It requires only tasteful dispositions of wood. To return : upon advancing nearer Chel-

\* Id. ii. 347.

† Price on the Picturesque, i. 4. Whately, 132, 133.

tenham the spire of the old church and the tower of the new chapel come very close, and form rather an *odder* feature in a scene than in a promenade ; the daughter walking before the mother ; and a daughter never likely to be married to a good rectorial glebe and tythes.

CHAPTER V.

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## THE TEWKESBURY ROAD.

THE road during the first and second miles is flat and thickly wooded. A little further on it is more open. The side ground is the Cotswold hills. There are too occasional pretty peeps. The Malverne hills in the distance are good objects along the whole of this road. Combe Hill is a gentle elevation. On the left is a broad vale, with the Malvernes in a row beautifully undulating, though far in the distance. The right is flatter. The middle ground is more open than close. The scene is not striking, but is sufficiently wooded to take off the Common-like air of nakedness. However the best view of the scenery is on the return. About two miles from Tewkesbury is a view of that noble building the Abbey Church, and on the left, about two hundred yards on this side the House of Industry, is the “Bloody Meadow,” where the last battle was fought between the forces of York and Lan-

caster. On the right, between the House of Industry and the Church is the small valley, where lay Queen Margaret; but of this more hereafter. On the right side of the road, just within the town, is the Abbey gate.

### TEWKESBURY ABBEY.

“Odda and Dodda, Dukes of Mercia, who lived in the time of Ethelwarde and Ethelbalde, Kings of Mercia, founded here a small Benedictine monastery of three and four monks, under the government of a prior. This foundation was perfected about the year 717. At length about the year 930, when Athelstan was King, “A knight, called Aylwarde, spong from Edward the Elder, did for himself and for his wife, in the time of Ethelred and the Archbishop Dunstane, founde a churche in the honor of our Lorde and his mother and St. Bartholomew, at Craneburghe (sic) [in Dorsetshire], and gave great possessions to it; whither assembling the brethren under the obedience of an abbot, he made the prioreye of Tewkburye, whereof he was patron; subject to the same about the year 982. Aylward being dead, and so notably buried in the church which he founded, Earl Algar succeeded, and gave great things to the same church. After

Algar succeeded Britticus or Brithricus. He, when on an embassy, had rejected the hand of Maud, afterwards Queen of William I. and she in revenge caused him to be imprisoned. Upon his death, without issue, the Queen seized his estate." Upon her death William gave it to Robert Fitzhamon, one of his Normans. He determined to make anew the church of Tewksbury, and enlarged the same with muche land." From that period Cranborn became merely a cell to Tewksbury, being removed thither on account of the river and contiguity of the demesne.\* At the dissolution of monasteries, the church was bought of the Crown, by the Corporation, for their parish church.

In ancient times our rich ancestors founded abbies for mausolea of themselves and their posterity, and alms-houses for their decayed servants. The monastery which had the good fortune to contain the sepulchre of a great family, was warmly patronized; and Tewksbury, from receiving the remains of the old "Earls of Gloucester," was an object of high regard. Externally, the leading character of the church is Norman, and there is only one trifling fault to

\* Thynne's notes of Tewkesbury Abbey. MS. Cott. Cleop. c. iii. p. 44.

find in a modern addition. The pinnacles are far too light for the massy towers, and the parapet is too low, so that the tower has a bad finish at top. Thus it is. Economy may effect pretty toy-shop things, like ladies' work-boxes, in cottages and citizen's boxes, but it spoils architecture. The proper thing must be done, cost what it may.

Upon entering the church the three following distinctive peculiarities will be immediately noticed ; *first*, a nave of Norman architecture, but utterly unornamented, *i. e.* without mouldings round the arches or worked capitals, (except in the Triforia) ; *secondly*, the reticulation of the groins under the tower, and especially over the altar, in a pattern of exquisite beauty, perhaps superior to any thing of the kind in the kingdom ; *thirdly*, the uncommon elegance of the shrines and gorgeousness of the tabernacle work.

These are the three grand points of impression, but the *tout ensemble* is not to be despised. The protrusion of the choir beyond the tower into the nave, by the modern inhabitants, for sufficiency of room, has hurt that effect of the nave which it had originally ; but upon opening the doors of the choir, a gorgeous scene of splendour strikes the eye ; a semicircular east end with windows of the best Gothic forms, filled

completely with stained glass, producing, not what the poets call a golden *light*, but a golden *twilight*, a summer noon of dimness, if it could be supposed, like light, to have a morning, noon, and evening; beautiful chapels and shrines under the arches on the sides; a vaulted roof inimitably groined; and stalls and pews tastefully disposed, and of sober mahogany colour. The whole confers great honour upon the parishioners. There is neither neglect nor injury, nor dirtiness, nor want of taste, so common in churches. It is true, that there is a *Grecian* altar screen; however, it is unobtrusive, harmonizes with the pews, and does not spoil the general effect. Two singularities are to be noticed. Anglo-Saxon churches had not *one* large Eastern window over the altar, but in general *three*, distinct from each other, one in the centre of the semicircle, and two on each side, apparently in allusion to the Trinity.\* Here are also *three* windows, now of very elegant Gothic, the early part of the fourteenth century; but at first probably, like those of Kilpeck, of staple-shaped Norman architecture. The other singularity is,

\* So I infer from the three windows at Kilpeck, and the Anglo-Saxon Church, engraved in Strutt's Dresses, pl. xxvi.

a very curious projecting niche of the richest tabernacle work, affixed in the wall, and perforated, to hold the saint's bell, which was rung at the elevation of the host.

The other subjects of consideration are the ROOF, THE WINDOWS, and the BURYING CHAPELS and TOMBS, most of which are in their way superb.

The ROOF.—The figures on the groins are very curious, chiefly consisting of figures playing upon musical instruments, to represent the *Gloria in excelsis*. One of them is David playing upon the *harp*, which is not of the British, Anglo-Saxon, or Norman form, that I have seen in other figures of him.\*

Marriage was anciently celebrated at the church door, and at Avening church in Gloucestershire, is a bas-relief of Adam and Eve, near the side wall of the entrance. Here Adam supports one end of the first rib of the roof by the great Western door, and Eve the other. She has long yellow hair. Long hair flowing down in the waist was the coronation and state dress of our Queens. The Queen of Richard III. so ap-

\* See Smith and Meyrick's British Costumes, pl. vii. p. 24, and Strutt, pl. xv. lvii.

pears in stained glass,\* and Ann Boleyn went to her coronation “in her heere.”†—“Girls,” says Strutt, “wore their hair short,” and this fashion may have been borrowed from Eve, and deemed a distinction of matrons. But it appears in two of his figures.‡ These supporters have been strangely applied to Robert Fitzhamon and his consort. Monstrous heads also occur.

II. The WINDOWS.—The choir windows have been noticed by that superior and tasteful antiquary, the late Samuel Lysons, Esq.||. Every part of these windows,§ and the elegant Gothic ornaments of the choir engrafted on the massive Norman columns of the original fabric, are, he says, of the early part of the fourteenth century. Two of these windows contain eight very curious figures of knights in armour. They stand under very rich Gothic canopies, each nearly filling one of the principal compartments of the window, some are in mail, others in plated

\* Illustrative plates of the Encyclopedia of Antiquities.

† Ellis's Letters on English History.

‡ Vol. ii. plate cxxv. p. 4, 19.

|| Archæologia, xiv. p. 143, 153.

§ Who contributed to them will appear from the arms in the windows, hereafter mentioned.

armour, and all of them have arms on their surcoats. The upper and smaller compartments of these windows are filled with vine branches in scroll work on a brilliant red ground, disposed in the most elegant taste. The figure, which has on its surcoat Azure, a lion rampant gardant, Or, belongs to Robert Fitzhamon, the founder; that bearing Gules, three rests Or, Robert Earl of Gloucester, natural son of Henry I. The four figures with the arms of Clare, or three chevrons Gules, show three Gilberts de Clare, successively Earls of Gloucester, and Richard de Clare, likewise Earl. A seventh figure with the arms of Despenser (quarterly, Azure and Gules, a bend Sable between two frets Or) belongs to Hugh le Despenser, junr. the favourite of King Edward II: and the eighth with the surcoat Gules, bezantée, or semée of bezants, to William le Zouch, who married the widow of the last mentioned Hugh le Despenser. Mr. Gough\* adds, that in four of these portraits we have a specimen of the ancient Gonfanons, *i. e.* small plates of steel placed on the shoulders, so called from their resemblance to the flags, called Gonfanons.

III. TOMBS.—Mr. Gough notes† that there

\* Sepulchr. Monum. Introd. v. ii. cexii. † *Id.* i. 195.

is extreme inaccuracy in the account of the tombs. Some useful corrections have been made by Mr. Lysons.

The first in consequence (north side of the choir) is a magnificent tomb containing the figures of a knight and his lady in white marble. He is represented in plated armour, with a gorget of mail and a round helmet, having a lion at his feet, and under his head a helmet with a griffin's head for the crest. The lady has a dog at her feet, and appears in the square head-dress, so commonly seen on tombs erected in the reign of King Edward III. Over the figures is a very rich Gothic canopy of stone, consisting of four tiers of arches, gradually diminishing to the top. The figures are Hugh le Despenser, eldest son of Hugh le Despenser the younger, and his wife Elizabeth,\* daughter of William de Montacute, Earl of Salisbury. He died February, 8, 23 Edward III. (1348), and she† June 20th, 33 Edward III. (1358). A very good engraving of this beautiful shrine is given in Dyde's History of Tewksbury, but it is in a very bad situation for effect. The apex of the shrine is not under the

\* This fact is clearly proved by the Abbey Chronicle in Dugdale's *Monasticon*, i. 157.

† Mr. Lysons, *Archæologia*, xiv. 143, 145.

centre of the arch, and the colouring of the work in assimilation of dark grey marble, obscures it still more. It should be white.

Another tomb\* with a similar canopy, and only one figure, is that of Sir Guy de Brien, the third and last husband of the above Elizabeth, which Sir Guy died in 1391. On the same North side of the choir is a chapel, the stone roof of which is composed of beautiful fan-work, of the age of Henry IV. or V. It was built by Abbot Parker in 1397, to receive the bones of the founder, then removed from the Chapter House. In 1795 this tomb was opened. At the West end was a large stone with a hole scooped out of it, in which were deposited two or three bones carefully wrapped up in lead, being no doubt all the remains of the founder which could be collected at the time of their removal.†

On the South side of the choir is a chapel called Trinity Chapel, on the roof of which (in a very ridiculous situation exciting levity) is placed a wooden painted effigy of a youth in mail, kneeling, called the “Effigy of Lord Sir

\* Engraved in Gough's Sepulchral Monuments, vol. i. plate liii. p. 151, and by Wale, together with the preceding. *Mr. Lysons.*

† Gough's Sepulchral Monuments, v. i. p. 16, 17, engraved plate ii.

Edward Despenser," (*sic*) to whom his *mother* is said to have erected *this* monument. I have read that *the arms of the Despencers are painted on the surcoat*, but I had a ladder on purpose to examine it minutely; and according to my notes made on the spot, the body is only covered with the mail. From the juvenility of the figure and the style of the armour, a century at least earlier than Despenser's æra, I am, if correct, inclined to think, that this is the effigy (and in that æra they were portraits) of the last Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, grandson of King Edward I. who was killed at the early age of twenty-three, in the battle of Bannockburn, A. D. 1314. The Clares were buried in the middle of the Presbytery, [the part between the choir and altar] in rows by the sides of each other,\* and this figure probably was placed on a pedestal, over a slab, which covered the remains of this last Gilbert. From thence, as being in the way, it appears to have been removed to its present absurd situation. To the honour of the parishioners, it has not been mutilated. The expence of a pedestal, with a few Gothic ornamants, would be an inconsiderable trifle, and it ought to be moved and placed in its

\* Dugdale's Monasticon, i. p. 156.

erect kneeling attitude, in the interior of one of the chapels. The will of Lady Elizabeth Le Despenser, who died in 1409, and built this chapel, orders that *her statue should be made all naked with her hair cast backwards*, according to the design and model that one Thomas Porchalion had for this purpose, and Mary Magdalen laying her hands across, with St. John the Evangelist on the right side, and on the left St. Anthony, and at her feet a Scocheon impaling her arms with those of the Earl her late husband, supported by two gryphons; but on the sides thereof the statues of poor men and women in their poor array with their beads in their hands.\*

In the circuit, around the choir, are other noticeable monuments. One was a lean figure emaciated almost to a skeleton, and called an emblem of mortality. Over it is a canopy of rich tabernacle work, as fine as any lace. This figure is in bad taste. Deformity consists of striking and unnatural deviations, and only disgusts. The oldest instance known of skeleton monuments, is of the date of 1241.† This tomb belonged

\* Dugdale's Warwickshire, 330, where this chapel is engraved.

† Savage's Memorabilia, p. 325.

to Abbot Wakeman, though he was not buried here. On the tomb of Abbot Coles, who died in 1509, is R. C. in a cypher, the Abbot's arms, a chevron between three escallop shells, over all a Palmer's staff. He had probably made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

The tomb at the back at the stone stalls in the choir, which consists of an ancient granite stone coffin under a low flat arch, ornamented with a scroll of vine leaves and grapes,\* over which are two rows of niches with rich canopies, belongs to Abbot John Cotes, who died A. D. 1361. The inscription on the lid is JOHANNES ABBAS HUJUS LOCI. This coffin was opened in 1795, but it contained nothing more than the remains of sacerdotal vestments.

The remains of Abbot Alan, the friend, and one of the biographers of Thomas à Becket, which Alan died in 1202, are deposited under a very plain semicircular arch in a stone coffin of purbeck marble. HIC JACET DOMINUS ALAN, ABBAS, was inscribed in it, but is in parts obliterated. When this coffin was opened the body was surprisingly perfect, and the drapery distinct, but

\* This is a very common pattern. It occurs on the frieze of almost all the rood-lofts known.

from exposure to the air it soon crumbled away. The monastic boots hung in large folds about the legs. On his right side lay a plain crosier of wood neatly turned, and remarkably light. It was five feet eleven inches long. The top was solid, nearly of the form of a *lituus* or scroll. It was gilt and had a cross *patée* cut upon it.\*

Another Abbot's tomb (erroneously called *Abbot Alan's*) is remarkable for an ogee arch, with an uncommonly rich finial, consisting of foliage, with the figure of an animal intermixed. Mr. Lysons says, that this tomb is a work of the thirteenth century. The tomb at the upper end of the South side of the nave, against the wall, ascribed to Edmund Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, beheaded after the battle of Tewkesbury, is not his. It has two shields of arms, neither of which has any relation to the then Dukes of Somerset. That on the right side has a lion rampant, that on the left the arms of Clare. The stone coffin has been placed there afterwards.† From the arms it should belong to some person allied to the Clare family by marriage; and it

\* This tomb is engraved in Gough's Sepulchral Monuments, vol. i. plate ix. p. 1, 2. The Crosier, Archæologia, xiv. plate xxxvii. p. 4.

† Mr. Lysons.

has been ascribed to Baldwin de Rivers, seventh Earl of Devonshire, who bore a lion rampant, and married Amicia,\* daughter of Gilbert de Clare. As, however, his æra is too remote for the style of the monument, it is supposed to have been erected afterwards.

The tomb ascribed to Lord Wenlock, killed at the battle of Tewksbury, is *not* his, and much older. The armour is curious. It has a gorget of edge-ringed mail, a surcoat emblazoned with a chevron between three leopards' heads, a mail skirt, fluted thigh pieces, knee-caps, legs and soliers of plate. Dr. Meyrick gives this figure as a good specimen of armour in the reign of Henry IV.† It is impossible to appropriate this figure from the arms, for I find these ordinaries borne by numerous families (See *below*‡). Mr. Lysons says that the arms of Lord Wenlock were, a chevron between three blackamoor's heads.

\* MS. Nichols.

† It is also engraved in the Encyclopedia of Antiquities, ii. p. 783, fig. 10.

‡ Harvey, Wheeler, Lees, Butvillan, Wentworth, Aprice, Fitch, Newport, Allerton, Blakeney, Ashby, Eades, Frowicke, Neche or Neke, Blyke, Hawes, Conley, Lychford, Copleston, Farrington, Harrington, Langton, Newport, Swaynband, Welsted, Savage, Monsden, Parker, &c.

These heads, it is to be added, were erased. Knight ascribes it to a chieftain of the name of Morley.

The subject of the monuments ought not to be closed without notice of the burial here of Edward Prince of Wales, son of Henry VI. the particulars of whose barbarous murder are so pathetically given by Shakspeare. A brass plate with an elegant Latin inscription, written by the late Vicar, Mr. Knight, is placed upon the slab near the middle of the choir, which covers his remains. The coffin, which was of marble, is not above five foot in the clear, which circumstance is favourable to its being the Prince's coffin. The bones were very small, and no ornaments of rank were found. Mr. Gough says that the site of the interment was discovered by the breaking of the stone which covered the coffin.\* It is singular that he should have been buried in the middle of the choir between the stalls; for Richard Duke of Warwick, who was buried here in 1446, chose that spot, on purpose that the Monks and his friends might always have him in remembrance,† and such a place of interment might excite recollections unacceptable

\* Sepulchral Monuments, ii. 225.

† Dugdale's Monasticon, i. 160.

to the friends of Edward IV. The bones were not large enough for Henry Beauchamp, Earl (afterwards Duke) of Warwick, as Knight supposes.

Before leaving the church it is necessary to note the following particulars. Mr. Gough says, that one of the oldest specimens of the painting of history or legend on the wall, occurs in this church.\* I did not see it. Possibly it is obscured by whitewash like the representation of the Trinity. The ancient stalls which used to turn up are nailed down, by which means much curious carving is concealed. Three which have been removed have a merman and mermaid holding a sort of book, a kind of dragon, and human heads, with bodies of a lizard. It is certain that in some instances these monstrous figures were intended to caricature the laity, and hold them up to contempt from their profane pursuits and loose characters. The pretended canopy over the head of the young figure mentioned (p. 106), belongs to one of the priest's stalls by the altar.

There are several coats of arms in the church, which I shall appropriate, because it has not been done before.

At the West front are, or were, these arms,

\* Sepulchral Monuments, Introd. v. ii. cxxxvii.

probably of benefactors to repair, at least in most instances.

*G. a lion ramp. regard. Or, for Small, Powell, Cadogan, Ameredith, Blayne, Brett; Maurice, Price, Roberts. Or, a fess Vaire, between 6 labels of 3 points S. for Baugh of Twining. G. a cross ragulé Or, the abbey. G. a saltire Arg. Nevilles, Earls of Westmorland, t. Henry V. &c. Per bend Or and Sab. a. lion ramp. counterchanged, Francis, Simpson; with other tinctures, Ratford, Tunatt, Trevor, Jenkins, &c. &c.*

In the windows of the choir are these arms, *Argent, a bend S. quartering G. a fret Or, Audley, Earl of Gloucester, and Thomas Lord Despenser. Or, within a bordure engrailed 3 chevrons G. Clare. Barry of 12 Arg. and Sab. Montford, Stuteville, &c. bear this coat with other tinctures, as do others. Lozengy Arg. and G. over all a bend S. (with other tinctures) Cheney.*

**UNDER THE WEST WINDOW.**—In a lozenge, *Or, on a bend between 2 cotises G. an escalllop, impaling G. a bend Or. Tracy of Stanway and Collumber, or Herman, or Portien. Under a mitre Arg. two keys in salt. the dexter Or, surmounted of the sinister Arg. (Q. if wrong blazonry for the See of Gloucester). Az. a lion ramp. Arg. Poole, of Sapperton. G. a dexter hand couped Arg. on a chief of the 2d three fighting cocks of the first. Handcock, impaling Baugh, viz. Or a fess wavy between 6. labels of 3 points S. Both these families were of Twining.*

**IN THE CHOIR AND CHANCEL WINDOWS.**—*Arg. a lion ramp. S. Fawconbridge, &c. Quarterly Arg. and G. in the 2d and 3d a fret Or, over all on a bend S. 3 escalllops of the first, Le Despenser. Or, three chevronels G. Clare,*

Earl of Gloucester. *G. a cross Or, the abbey. Arg. five bars Az.* Cotton. *Barry, undy, Arg. and G. a baton in bend Az.* for Damory. A *lion Sab. crowned Or. Az. a lion ramp. gard. Or*, for Fitzhamon. *Gul. 10 bezants, Le Zouch.*

There are other numerous coats appropriated in Mr. Nichols's MS.

Looking out of a door in the South transept, you see the vineyard where Queen Margaret lay. As it adjoined the monastery, she could upon alarm take refuge there instantly. The following account of this circumstance, and the battle in the *bloody meadow*, is taken from Holinshed.

“The camp of the Lancastrians was so strongly posted under the protection of deep ditches, hedges, trees and lanes, that Edward could only annoy them with shots and arrows. In order to draw them out, the Duke of Gloucester, [afterwards Richard III.] made a mock retreat; “which, (says Holinshed) when the Duke of Somerset [Commander in chief of the Lancastrians] perceived, either moved therewith, or else because he was too sore annoied with the shot in that place, where he and his forward stood, like a knight more courageous than circumspect, came out of his strength with his owne battell, and advanced himself somewhat aside, slips the king’s voward, and by certeine passages afore

hand, and for that purpose provided to the king's party although unknown, he passed a lane and came into a faire open close [Glaston Meadow] right before the king, where he was imbattled, not doubting but the Prince and the Lord Wenlocke with the middle ward had followed just at backe. But whether the Lord Wenlocke dissembled the matter for King Edward's sake, or whether his hart served him not, still he stood and gave the looking on.

“ The King or (as others have) the Duke of Gloucester, taking the advantage that he adven-tured for, turned againe face to face unto the Duke of Summersett his battell, and winning the hedge and ditch of him, entred the close, and with great violence put him and his people up towards the hill from whence they were de-cended. Heere is to be noted, that when the King was come before his enemies, yer he gave the onset, he perceived, that upon the right hand of their campe their was a parke, and much store of wood growing therein ; and doubting least his adversaries had laid an ambush within that wood, he chose foorth of his companies two hundred speares, commanding them to keep a stale like a quarter of a mile from the field, to attend upon that corner of the wood, out of the

which the ambush, if anie were was to issue, and to incounter with them, as occasion served ; but if they perceived that there was no ambush at all, then to imploie their service as they should see it expedient and behoveful for the time.

“ The provision for danger that might have in-sued, (although there was none that waie foorth), served yet before the end of the battell to great goode purpose. For when those spears perfectlie understood that there was no ambush within the wood, and saw withall convenient time to imploie themselves, they came and brake with full random upone the Duke of Summerset, and his vovard a flanke in so violent rise upon the sud-den, that when they had before inough to doo with those with whom they were first matched, now with the new charge given on them by those two hundred speares, they were not a little dismaied, and to conclude, so discouraged, that streight waie they tooke them to flight.\*

“ The Duke of Summerset, seeing this unfortunate chance, as some write, turned to the middle ward, and there finding the Lord Wen-locke standing still, after he had reviled him and called him traitor, with his ax he stroke the

\* A MS. account penès Mr. B. Nichols, says, that the second and third lines ran away without striking a blow.

braine out of his head. [Polydore Virgil says, he dyed fighting stoutly.—MS. Nichols.]

“ The Duke of Gloucester pursuing after them that fled with the Duke of Summerset to their campe, where the rest of their armie stood, entered the trench, and after him the King, where he bare himself so knightlie, that thereupon the Queen’s part went to wracke, and was put to flight, the King and other falling in chase after them, so that many were slaine, but especiallie at a mill, in the meadowe fast by the towne, a great sort were drowned,” &c. &c. This battle was fought May 4, 1471.

Tewkesbury had a very ample concern in the warlike events during the grand rebellions ; and many of these are detailed in the author’s History of Gloucester ; but ample accounts of Tewkesbury have been published in Dyde and Knight’s Local Histories, and this book is not a topographical work concerning that venerable town.

The town is in the form of a capital Y, with curved outlines. The house where the Prince of Wales was killed is known, but now modernized. This is not the case with all the houses. Some are of lath and plaister with the timbers coloured red or black. On the roof of one house different coloured tiles form a great W, with a lozenge in the middle.

*Return from Tewkesbury.*

The road is here much more pleasant. At Walton Hill, about two or three miles from the town is a very fine panoramic view of the circumjacent country. The foreground is wood, the middle plain, the distance hills. The cause of one characteristic feature in this and other parts of the vale scenery is, that the green surface, being that of balks and ridges of former arable ground, has not the richness of meadow verdure, and that the hedges in general have no trees, except a few pollard willows which skirt gullies and brooks. Now and then there are taller forest trees, which sometimes appear in natural groups, and then are very ornamental.

## CHAPTER VIII.

## THE GLOUCESTER ROAD.

AFTER passing Capt. Prescott's truly elegant Villa, the road till it reaches Wotton and Hucclecote, is the perfection of insipidity ; it is like a long naked room without furniture, and a heap of rubbish (Churchdown) on one of the sides. The cause is this ; the ugliest ground is that which has not the beauty of smoothness, verdure, and gentle undulation, nor the picturesqueness of bold and sudden breaks, and varied tints of soil. Of this kind is ground which has been disturbed and left in an unfinished state, such as is seen in a rough ploughed field run to sward,\* the character of the ground here. Churchdown has the characteristics of ugliness, because the worst forms of hills are when they are lumpish, notched into paltry divisions, or are

\* Price on the Picturesque, i. 193.

full of small unsightly elevations like knobs and bumps. Add to this that Churchdown is scrawled all over with hedgerows without trees, and diversified only by straight or oblique ledges and bumps. It looks like a pyramid made of loose earth, which has squatted down and settled into some disorder, but retained enough of its original formality to spoil it, and divest it of any character whatever. Upon approaching Gloucester, beams of cheerfulness break through the gloom. We get some glimpses of the city. This fortunately, like Cheltenham, lies low, for in towns upon the sides of hills, roofs, and chimneys become conspicuous objects, whereas in flats these either disappear, or are so blended that they are scarcely distinguished. In views of cities, towers, domes, columns, open arches, clusters of pillars, Gothic pinnacles, and spires, are essential ; but were there the cathedral only Gloucester would have consequence. Here, however, is not the best view of that. It foreshortens so that its extent is not commensurate with its height. It is like a figure in a cieling, beheld too close. The best entrance of Gloucester is, notwithstanding, the London road. It abounds in Villas, and cottage-called miniatures of them, with pretty lawniets and shrubberies, full of firs, laurels, and laburnums, huddled to-

gether in a mob; like, in Mr. Price's humourous language, the nouns in *propria quæ maribus*:

“Et postis, vectis, vermis, societur et axis.”

The chief objects of Gloucester\* are the CATHEDRAL, the SPA, and the WESTGATE BRIDGE.

The CATHEDRAL.—Things, says Montesquieu, which we see at one glance, owe all their effect to symmetry. Thus Grecian buildings please, because they form a beautiful harmonious whole, and are comprehended at one look; but things which we see in succession, ought to have variety and richness, and Gothic buildings are seen in succession. In Gothic fabrics the outline of the summit presents such a variety of forms of turrets and pinnacles, some open, some fretted and variously enriched, that even where there is an exact correspondence of parts, it is often disguised by an appearance of splendid confusion and irregularity.† In the doors and windows of Gothic churches the pointed arch has

\* See the authorities in the author's *History of the City*.

† Mr. Knight says (*Taste*, pt. ii. c. 2. § 39. p. 167), “No part of the interior of King's College Chapel, Cambridge, is unornamented; and though the ornaments, considered with reference to the parts only, often appear crowded, capricious, and unmeaning, yet the effect of the whole together is more rich, grand, light, and airy,

as much variety as any regular figure can well have. The eye too is less strongly conducted than by the parallel lines of the Grecian style, from the top of one aperture to that of another ; and every person must be struck with the extreme richness and intricacy of some of the principal windows of our cathedrals and ruined abbies. In these last is displayed the triumph of the picturesque. Pinnacles and open work, such as are seen in the cathedral before us, are the most striking specimens of richness and lightness, both of design and execution. Where a plain pinnacle is placed on each corner of a tower, the whole has a very meagre appearance ; indeed, when we consider what are the chief characteristics of the style of architecture to which they belong, *plain, simple Gothic*, is almost as great a contradiction as *plain, simple intricacy and enrichment.*\*

The interior consists of a Norman Nave with massy columns, a choir embellished with the ancient stalls, and a singularly large East window, (of which Mr. Dallaway says, the effect is de-  
than that of any other building known, either ancient or modern.)

\* Knight upon Taste, pt. ii. c. 2. § 52, p. 178. Rep-  
ton's Inquiry, p. 39. Price on the Picturesque, i. 53,  
54, ii. 360.

stroyed for want of stained glass,) a Lady-chapel of perfect florid Gothic, and rich shrines and monuments. The cloisters are deservedly considered the finest of the kind in England. In short few churches in England exhibit so complete a school of Gothic, in all its gradations from the time of the Conquest, as the Cathedral of Gloucester.\* To go *seriatim* through the noticeables—

The *nave* contains among other monuments, one for Mrs. Morley, of modern sculpture, who died at sea. It is much admired, but Sir Henry Englefield† very properly questioned whether the present fashion of excluding all architectural ornament from tombs, and confining them to mere groups of sculpture, which have no effect at all when viewed from a distance, and on a nearer approach have nothing appropriate to their sacred situation, “has the splendid and characteristic effect of our ancient monumental *edifices*.” The fine perspective of the cloisters through an

\* The several dates of the building are these, *crypt and iles round the choir*, 1058; *nave, all but the vaulting and ancient part of the transepts*, 1104; *South ile and vault of the nave*, 1329; *West end of the church*, 1377; *choir*, 1381; *great cloisters*, 1412; *central tower*, 1457; *Lady chapel*, 1499. *West front rebuilt with two pillars between 1420—1437.*

† Account published by the Society of Antiquaries.

iron grate should not be forgotten before leaving the nave.

The choir is next entered, and here are pointed out the roof, containing figures of angels playing upon musical instruments, to represent the *Gloria in excelsis*; the immense East window, put up in the time of Edw. III., containing among heraldic escutcheons the figures of Edw. II. and III.; and a very curious pavement of ancient tiles before the altar, emblazoned with armorial bearings.

We now go back to the nave, and enter the ile surrounding the choir. The ile surrounding the choir, says Sir Henry Englefield, has nothing uncommon in its form or disposition below, *but above this ile the great peculiarity of this church occurs.* The side iles and eastern chapels are, in fact, including the crypts, three stories high, and all vaulted, and the upper range of chapels, surrounding the choir, is *perhaps not to be met with in any other church in Europe.*

**NORTH ILE.**—The eye is first directed to the vestiary in the transept, a curious specimen of intermixture of the Norman and Gothic styles. In this ile is, first, the effigies of Robert Curthose, Duke of Normandy, brother of William Rufus and Henry I. who was blinded and imprisoned by the latter. It is placed in the centre

of a chapel; thus both set off each other, for what would be the *best* naked room with nothing in it. Mr. Gough thinks that it may be the second oldest instance of the kind carved in wood.\* Dr. Meyrick says† the effigy cannot be prior to the reign of John, but looks much more like the work of the next, and perhaps presents the earliest specimen of a coronet worn with armour, and of chaussons or breeches, over the chausses, a custom not common till the reign of Edw. I. The figure is cross-legged, and such monuments are presumed to denote Crusaders, or Vowees to take the journey. When the figure is in the attitude of sheathing the sword, it is supposed to designate the vow having been performed.‡ The pedestal is comparatively modern and contains many fantastical escutcheons. Nearly opposite is the exquisite shrine of King Edw. II. (murdered at Berkeley Castle,) which for beauty of design and execution has perhaps only one rival in the kingdom, that of the Percy monument at Beverley. The sculpture of the statue is excellent, and the attitude full of repose and dignity. In the front view of the face we may fancy that indications of pain about the

\* Sepulchral Monuments, i. 98. † Armour, i. 102.

‡ Id. i. 118.

forehead are discernible, for the likeness was probably copied from a cast of the deceased, taken after his savage assassination. The view of the profile is beautiful. Rysbrack much admired this effigy. The monument is ascribed to his son King Edw. III. and it is said that the elegant canopy is *modern*, and not strictly copied from the old one, which may be seen in Sandford's Genealogical History. The white stags, the badges of King Richard II. who, says Harding, was much attracted by the miracles done at this shrine, probably show that *he* had some concern in this monument, or why should they be there? He took the device from his mother. Reparations there may have been, but it is far more probable that Sandford's view is an incorrect drawing, than that the canopy is modern. It is perfectly in character with similar works of the æra, known to be antique. The octangular bracket with an excavation is supposed to have been made for receiving the offerings.

The Lady Chapel beyond (formerly used for the service of sick and strange monks) exhibits in its roof a specimen of exuberant foliage, which is deemed unique.

Upon turning round to the North transept, the visitor is ushered into the upper compartments. Here he will meet with a curious whispering gal-

lery, formed by a passage between the East end of the choir and the Lady Chapel: an altar complete, still retaining three of the five indented crosses usual on such tables; and an ancient painting, intended to represent the Day of Judgment, and once part of the decorations of the high altar. It is more an affair of curiosity than of execution.

Upon descending to the transept and South aisle two monuments of exquisite workmanship will be seen. One is a curious shelf-monument for John Gower, the workman, who finished the Gothic work of the church. The figure of the old man has a budget of masonry tools before him, whilst he supports the monument, the top of which forms a mason's square. Under the top is the figure of his son shewing the different orders of the Gothic. The figure of the father is below, as supported or having constructed the basement, and above is the figure of the son, hanging to groin work, as being the finisher or decorator of this part of the church. The other monument is that of Alderman Blackleach and his wife, in white marble upon a slab of touch-stone, the figures of which are portraits, scrupulously copied from Vandyke, and exquisitely finished. Mr. Dallaway thinks that this tomb is

either the work of Le Sueur, well known for the equestrian statue of Chas. I. at Charing Cross, or of Fanelli, a sculptor equally eminent.

Another monument, ascribed to Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, but *not* his, is the earliest specimen of plate armour with *taces*, or overlapping plates, to cover the abdomen, at the bottom of the breast-plate, without any surcoat. It was not till the reign of Henry V. that this practice became general. He wears plate over the insteps, but the rest of his feet is covered with chain mail.\*

These are the remarkable in the church; but there are other good things, not peculiar, which the vergers are competent to point out. The next thing shown is the exquisite cloisters; the most perfect in England. The lacework of the roof is the grand object of admiration. In the South walk are remains of the ancient carrols or pews, where the missals and other books were written. In the North walk is the lavatory, where the monks washed themselves, the largest and most ornamented in England. It occupies several divisions of arches, and has a double lavor with holes. Opposite is the sudatory, or recesses for the towels.

\* Encyclopædia of Antiquities, ii. 794.

The chapter-house or library, the last object shown, is supposed by Mr. Lysons to have been built in the time of the Conqueror, and to have been the room, where that King held his Parliaments. The eastern end is of a later æra. The carving of the modern wood work is worthy notice. The floor of this fine room is raised and artificial. Perhaps it is to be regretted, for to detract from the elevation of a room cannot add to its effect, except under important faults in the original construction.

THE SPA.—This is a range of modern houses, certainly elegant, with a pump-room, and a green laid out in front like a London square, well shrubbed and gravel-walked. Repton properly notices\* “that very few are in the habit of anticipating the future effects of plantation,” and perhaps shrubs and low trees are best fitted to squares in cities and such places as these; for in those at London and Bristol, where forest trees have grown up, there is a gloom, producing an association of ideas with church-yards. If forest trees be at all used, perhaps they should be confined to the centre, and conceal a *reposoir* of tasteful execution. But whether this be

\* Inquiry, p. 61.

added or not, from the tallest trees being in the centre, the view on every side would rise, and produce an assimilation of a hanging wood. One of the best things of this kind, notwithstanding its formality, is the temple formed of yew trees in the garden of St. John's College, Oxford.

WESTGATE BRIDGE.—The perfection of bridges is lightness. This is certainly elegant. The Severn is unfortunately insipid in this place, for the most uninteresting parts of any river are those of which the immediate banks are flat, green, naked, and of equal height. These banks should be clothed with trees, but that is not compatible with navigable purposes. The most perfect river views, says Gilpin, consist of four grand parts, the *area*, which is the river itself, the *two side screens*, which are the opposite banks, and lead the perspective, and the *front screen*, which points out the winding of the river. It would be difficult to apply these rules to the Severn at Gloucester. But if the two channels were united into one broad stream, and the reach lengthened, with patches of wood scattered over the Isle of Olney, the river would become a noble ornament to the city, and, according to some authorities, be of far greater benefit to its commerce.

The lover of Gothic architecture may see various specimens of interest in the vicinity of the Cathedral, and the philosopher may find instruction in the pin-manufactories and the Howardian gaol.

CHAPTER IX.

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## ANCIENT CAMPS VISITABLE BY MORNING RIDES.

The camps in the vicinity are numerous. PAINSWICK BEACON is the chief. It has been called one of the *castra exploratoria* of the Romans, but from its having *three* banks and ditches, and yet the form of a parallelogram, it appears to have been an old fort of the *Dobuni*, converted by the Conquerors to their own uses and forms.

CHURCHDOWN is of very irregular form, and of course British. It is rendered very imperfect by stone-digging.

HIGH BROTHERIDGE, just above the Roman villa at Whitcombe. Only a bank and ditch on the South side are clearly visible; there may have been a smaller one within it.

WHITCOMBE HILLOCK, within a few yards of the Roman villa, is a high ridge which terminates in an elevated point or hillock, and is supposed to be artificial.

CRICKLEY HILL crosses a promontory about two hundred and fifty yards wide. It consists of two banks and ditches, the inward one much smaller than the other, and perhaps thrown up at a different time. The outward one has a perfect entrance, defended by an advanced bank and ditch. Promontories, with steep sides and works across the isthmus, were favourite positions with the Britons, Anglo-Saxons, and Danes,\* and from the inward smaller work, which is characteristic of Anglo-Saxon castrametation, it is probable that Crickley Hill was an old fortress of the Dobuni, afterwards occupied by the people mentioned.

LECKHAMPTON HILL.—A single bank and ditch form two sides of a pretty large fortress; the steepness of the hill sufficiently defends the other sides. In the bank, wherever it has been opened, are evident marks of fire. This again is British.

CLEEVE HILL is another *presumed* British post; its shape is almost an acute angled parallelogram, with the two obtuse angles very much rounded off. It is about 180 yards from one acute angle to the other, and about 100 yards from one obtuse angle to the other. It is on the brow of the

\* *Encyclopædia of Antiquities*, ii. 498.

hill, which is steep enough to be a sufficient defence to it, and there seems to have been an entrance from the vale. On the other side it is defended by two banks and ditches. There is another entrance towards the western end. The outward bank is low and the ditch not deep, but between them the space is unusually large. The situation of this fortress is very remarkable. In approaching it, the ground falls almost every where towards the outer ditch, and at the distance of half a bow-shot from it a person may see the area over the bank; while about 200 yards to the eastward there is a spot of high ground, which would be much more easily defended, and about half a mile still to the eastward there is a yet more commanding situation. It is not easy to say why one of these was not preferred to the site of the entrenchment. Thus Mr. Baker; and the remains rather imply a British settlement or village than a fortress, for this is the conclusion which Sir R. C. Hoare, the first antiquary on these subjects, draws from irregular earthworks, which cannot be reduced to forms indispensable for defence. The spade might be used here, for that would decide the fact, by discoveries of broken pottery, black soil, nails, &c. implying habitation.

NOTTINGHAM HILL is a British camp, on a

projection of the hill, across which two banks and ditches are made. Round the hill there appear to have been two very strong banks. This is one of the largest posts.

BREDON HILL is another British post, protected on two sides by the brow of the hill, on the other two by entrenchments.\* It would be very amusing to trace by the hollow or covered ways, the roads of communication between these fortresses.

\* This account is taken (the appropriations excepted) from Mr. Baker's Dissertation in the *Archæologia*, xix. 161—172.

CHAPTER X.

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CURIOS OBJECTS AT SOME DISTANCE, ADJACENT  
TO THE WINCHCOMBE, BRISTOL, LONDON (BY  
CIRENCESTER), BATH, MALVERN, AND ROSS  
ROADS.

MR. Hanbury Tracey's newly-built castellated mansion at Toddington is much admired. Mr. Payne Knight considers Grecian buildings, as standing wholly unconnected with all that surrounding them, mere unmeaning excrescences.\* The advantage of country seats in the Gothic form is (in his opinion) that they are picturesque objects, and may receive alterations and additions in almost any direction, without any injury to the genuine and original character.† It is certain that old houses with gables and recesses cannot be Grecianized without spoiling them. It is said that Mr. Tracey's house, when completed, will rival if not exceed Fonthill.

\* Taste, pt. ii. c. 2. § 42. p. 170.

† Id. § 98. p. 223.

BERKELEY CASTLE, *on the Bristol road*, is a fine Norman fortress, nearly perfect in the exterior. The keep and the hall are both fine feudal relics. The room in the dungeon tower where Edw. II. was murdered, though modernized in the interior, is yet dark and gloomy; and its security, by being at the back of the flanking stair-case, and open only to the interior of the keep, will show what effectual prisons these rooms were made. The evident safety also consulted in the construction of the ladies tower is worthy notice. No missiles could affect the fair inhabitants, and they could escape by private stair-cases to any other part of the castle.

THORNBURY CASTLE, on the same road, built by Edward Duke of Buckingham, beheaded temp. Henry VIII. is a curious specimen of a castellated mansion adapted to residence and war. The range of apartments is affixed to a strong tower at one end, which flanks and protects them. Before these can be reached, a large court filled with barracks and loop-holes must be carried.

CIRENCESTER CHURCH has two fine windows of stained glass, arranged by the late Samuel Lysons, Esq. The church is very fine, and is remarkable for the characters in the morris-dance being represented upon it.

FAIRFORD CHURCH, on the road from Ciren-

cester to London, is entirely full of coloured glass. Vandyke affirmed that the pencil could not equal the drapery and drawing of some of the figures. The brilliancy of tint is wonderful, but the effect is greatly injured by the unequal sizes and heterogeneous shapes of the leaden reticulations. Hell, as was common, is represented by the head of a huge monster, and over the Apostles are articles of the Creed, as supposed to have been made by each of them severally.\*

It is worth while to go to London once at least by the Cirencester road, in order to see that church and Fairford.

WOODCHESTER CHURCH, *on the Bath road*, between Stroud and the Fleece Inn, stands close to the site of the Roman villa described by Mr. Lysons, part of it extending into the church-yard. It is covered up for preservation. The tessellated pavement is very fine.

On a field adjoining the high road, beyond Petty France and near Cross-hands, is the famous and most perfect Roman camp of OLD SODBURY. Mr. King† says, “that it seems to have been incomparably well adapted, to have contained three cohorts with double the number of allied troops, and half as many more allied horse.” When the

\* Fosbroke's Gloucestershire, ii. 461.

† Munim. Antiq. ii. 148.

Romans used double trenches they were hard pressed, and the inner vallum was lined with engines\* to cover the soldiers on the outer, and weaken the enemy's attack by missiles. Edw. IV. occupied this camp on his way to Tewkesbury.

At Dirham beyond was fought the decisive battle between the Britons and Saxons in the sixth century, by which the unfortunate Britons were for ever expelled from England. Camden mentions huge entrenchments on Hinton Hill.

The traveller to Malvern will visit the fine old churches of both the Malverns, and the Herefordshire Beacon, the most perfect specimen of a British camp in existence.

### *Road to South Wales.*

HIGHNAM, about two miles from Gloucester on the Ross road, the seat of Sir B. Wm. Guise, Bart. exhibits a very fine specimen of the style of Inigo Jones, the architect of numerous seats yet existing.

But the finest excursion of all is the tour down the Wye. If Tintern and Piercefield be only the grand objects desired, a turnpike road is now in progress, which will not only command a view of these, but an excursion through some of

\* *Encyclopædia of Antiquities.*

the finest scenery in England. The traveller in a carriage, or on horseback, will go from Ross to Lidbrook, where there is a romantic landscape, proceed from thence to Coleford and St. Briavels, through every variety of forest scenery, novel, curious, or grand ; from thence he will turn down to a bridge over the Wye, which will lead him to Tintern, Windclef, Piercefield, and Chepstow, through a country of which the natural beauties are known to every body.

## CONTRIBUTIONS

TOWARDS THE

MEDICAL HISTORY OF THE WATERS,

AND

MEDICAL TOPOGRAPHY

OF

CHELTONHAM.

CONTAINING DIRECTIONS FOR DRINKING THE WATERS.

BY JOHN FOSBROKE,

RESIDENT SURGEON AT CHELTENHAM.

TO

CHARLES HENRY PARRY, Esq.

M. D. F. R. S. &c. &c. &c.

IN TOKEN OF RESPECT

FOR HIS TALENTS AND VARIOUS ACQUIREMENTS,

AND

PROFOUND KNOWLEDGE OF SCIENTIFIC MEDICINE,

AS WELL AS

FOR AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HIS FRIENDSHIP

TOWARDS THE AUTHOR,

THIS ESSAY IS INSCRIBED.

## NOTES TO THE CONTRIBUTIONS.

OF "The Contributions" it may here be observed, that length of observation only could have imparted to them a greater perfection either in form or substance. The future researches of the Author, if the present attempt be encouraged, may be the means of clothing the more hollow and defective parts with a fuller proportion of substance and variety. The correct though concise accounts of Short and Rutty, and the more bold untraced excursions of Jameson, who conceived his plan from the account of Spa by the latter of those two preceding writers, left only such bald spaces as must occur according to the progress of places and science, and the knowledge of causes and effects.

Lest the remarks on the muriated waters (p. 192), excite any unseasonable chafings of the spirit, we would not that they should take air unbacked by trust-worthy authority; should they bear too hard on *one* place, which is said to be indebted chiefly to a metropolitan physician of great ascendancy in fashionable practice, who *holds property there*, let it be remembered, that it has placed its account in the constant repudiation of Cheltenham.

"*Leamington Water.* It is a common brackish salt spring."—"Dr. Short calls it a mere brine spring,

and blames Guidot for attributing nitre to it." Its operations and virtues are thus described by Dr. Short: "It purges and vomits strongly, and is drunk by rustics from two quarts to three. It is used for curing sore legs, breakings out, and mangy dogs." Vide *Rutty's Synopsis*, 4to, p. 159, written in 1750.

The vanity which affects particular individuals would sometimes appear to take possession of a whole place, especially after the discovery of a mineral water, so that they never need afterwards the Vicar of Kilmarnock's prayer, "Lord! give us a gude conceit of ourselves!" The inhabitants of Newent say that they have a water which exceeds those of Harrowgate, Cheltenham, and all other places!

Should the rules for the doses of the waters, p. 93, seem inexplicit, it may be stated that the commencing doses are two pints and a half, medium dose two pints twelve ounces, extreme dose three pint glasses. Take a quarter of an hour's exercise betwixt each glass.

CONTRIBUTIONS  
TOWARDS THE  
MEDICAL HISTORY OF THE WATERS,  
AND  
MEDICAL TOPOGRAPHY,  
OF  
CHELTENHAM.

BY JOHN FOSBROKE,

RESIDENT SURGEON AT CHELTENHAM.

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Ah ! what avail the largest gifts of heaven,  
When drooping health and spirits go amiss ?  
How tasteless then whatever can be given ?  
Health is the vital principle of bliss,  
And exercise of health. In proof of this,  
Behold the wretch who slugs his life away,  
While him, whom toil has braced or manly play,  
As light as air each limb, each thought as clear as day.

Ah ! who can speak the vig'rous joys of health ?  
Unclogg'd the body, unobscured the mind,  
The morning rises gay, with pleasing stealth  
The temperate evening falls serene and kind,  
In health the wiser brutes true gladness find.

The man of genius, who, retreating from the dreary intercourse of daily life, carries into the beloved solitude of his study a mind exuberant with thought, casts a glance upon the subjects of his contemplations, and pours over them the freshness and vigour of an inspired intellect. For a time he forgets the world, or addresses it as a voice from a delphic temple. As thought after thought is fixed by the sable drop, the most barren and exhausted topics catch an enlivening colour and gloss, and awaken feelings of pleasure and surprise in the future reader akin to those known to the spectator of nature, when a scene, before unfavourably presented to him, under some sudden and accidental dispositions of light, acquires a new aspect, a striking force of imagery, and warmth of tone.

Were we so gifted, we could hope to bring, if neither novel nor important lights, some new attractions, some specious ingenuities, some unforeseen combinations of reasoning, some deeper soundings of nature, to this exhausted subject, to throw into shade its more hackneyed parts, and cover with verdure those that are scanty and bare.

All, however, that we shall attempt, will be a plain account of the local conduct of life, and use of the Cheltenham Waters, as will convey

sufficient rules for the guidance of persons of tolerable education. It will be so executed as to avoid the mere pretence of learning, and the unnecessary imposition of mystery and pedantry upon points which call not for them. The observations of which the whole will consist, are drawn from the actual application of the waters, *by the author*, to various diseases. As they will be pictured from nature, the test of their truth will be found in his experience, who shall be circumstanced as they express.

All that is worth learning may easily be communicated, and easily acquired. It were but “a manage as poor as impertinent,” in the spirit of false science, to heap the mere semblance of erudition without its reality upon subjects which scarcely even admit it at all. These remarks are made chiefly, in that the suspicion of these faults has verily been connected with the professed descriptions of mineral waters, and bespoken for them the contempt of real intelligences, as being the mere *enfans perdus* of literature.\* It was no bad counsel to a learned friend, when he was about to settle in Bath, from an old stager in the profession: “ Whatever you do, my dear fellow,

\* For the most part, indeed, those scimble-scamble, bathotic compositions, serve no other end than to support the first strokes of a weak swimmer in the vortex.

do not begin by writing a book on the 'Bath Waters.'"

Treatises of this kind can only be valuable when they result from actual observation of the effects of the remedies of a place upon the different constitutions and diseases of men. From the genuine "Via Graphica et Historica" we should derive some degree of truth superior to interested discussions founded upon *à priori* conclusions, concerning the probable actions of stated chemical combinations. The work, however, has rarely been so performed; for, if faithfully done, it would have jarred, perhaps, too often, with particular interests, afforded small information, where imagination could invent much, and constituted an undertaking, at a period of life when a chief purpose of such productions was gone bye for ever.\*

It has been deemed a necessary part of the inflation of works of this kind to present a whole system of diseases to the reader, to describe things to him which are better expounded elsewhere, and to put the means in his way of drawing conclusions, "by which nothing is concluded."

\* Of works on mineral waters, that by Dr. Barlow, of Bath, on the waters of that city, is, undoubtedly, the most scientific.

Few visit a watering-place with any serious disease, who have not already gained such information concerning their particular malady, as to be acquainted with the name, and more familiar qualities. When this knowledge is precluded by the obscurity of the case itself, some less vague source of intelligence must be sought, than a history of distempers in a local description.

Diseases of the alimentary tube are the most incident to the human species. Simple disordered function of the stomach constitutes the malady called *Dyspepsia*. The essential characteristics of *Dyspepsia*, ("stomach complaints,") are, head-aches, the formation of an acid in the stomach, with acescent eructations, bowels sometimes relaxed, but more frequently torpid, flatulency, and weak appetite. This may be constituted a primary or secondary disease: original want of power of the stomach, loss of energy of the nervous system, impressions of cold, depressing passions, study, local injuries of the brain and spinal column, affections of the abdominal viscera, liver, kidneys, and colon,\* especially form the causes of it.†

\* One of the lower bowels.

† Whatever in weak constitutions produces exhaustion, as over-fatigue, will cause *dyspepsia*; likewise

The following description having been deduced most accurately from a series of cases, is here subjoined from our note-book. "It is certain that there is in general a disordered state of the brain previous to the approach of severe dyspepsia; it is signified by depression of spirits, anxiety, irritability of mind, or apprehension, sometimes accompanied with itching, soreness, or slight eruptive appearances on the skin. Such are the indistinct and obtuse sensations which forerun violent attacks of dyspepsia, until a more complete head-ache, and derangement of the alimentary tube follow. The oppressed state of the brain, that sense of steady pain which, in a most melancholy manner, lessens the exertions of the faculties in spite of all the efforts of the will and the struggles of attention, seem to take place in the greatest degree when the whole alimentary tube participates with the stomach, when from the pylorus\* to the colon it writhes and twists, girt round as it were with bands of iron in one part, and excessively distended with

hard-drinking and smoking. A lady induced an attack which lasted several months, by putting her feet in cold water; so ready is the communication betwixt the skin and stomach. Application to sedentary pursuits, as writing and painting, quickly disorders the stomach of persons delicately organized.

\* Lower valve of the stomach.

flatus in another. After a vigilant night with these symptoms, the head-ache begins to lessen, and the painful abdominal symptoms also diminish. The patient is then apt to fall into a heavy slumber, after which he rises from bed with extreme reluctance. The head-ache generally continues through the subsequent day, with or without disturbance of the bowels. When this disease has not assumed a permanent form, and comes on at intervals, the night is the most usual period of its approach, and the same hour of the night of successive attacks."

The worst condition of the alimentary tube exists when the mucous membrane\* of the bowels is affected throughout its whole course, when, as I believe, disordered action is extended over the whole internal surface.

In these cases, viscid mucus, or slime of various colours, sheath-like substances, or clammy adhesive stools, are passed instead of natural evacuations. The latter, when passed, are voided in small hard lumps,† with a sense of constriction

\* This membrane forms the inner surface.

† Dissection convinces me that the evacuations may be thus scanty, when the small intestines are covered with chyle (food chemically changed), and the cœcum, arch of the colon (the large intestines) distended with fæces. Scanty evacuations therefore are owed not to emptiness, but loss of perisaltic energy in these lower bowels.

and impotence of the bowels. Sometimes the food passes unaltered, and itching of the anus, rolling, twisting, and spasms occur, especially during the night: cramps, muscular contractions of the neck or lower extremities, paralysis of particular muscles, tremblings of limbs, with a sense as if girt round with ligatures. The symptoms in the head differ from acute to dull heavy pains. With horrid dreams, concur despondency, absence of mind, and “dismal contemplations;” with irregular action of the heart, an anxious sense of failing of its powers, and oppression, intermission, and fluttering in the ascent of acclivities. The stomach is affected with acidity, burning sensations, exquisite sensibility at the pit, and intolerance of external pressure. Wandering pains of bones, and of the joints, sometimes impaired vision, and impaired hearing, form a part of their melancholy combination of symptoms.

In this state it may be said, that the *whole* constitution is diseased.\* When mucus is thus

\* Indeed we can scarce conceive of any single distemper which falls to the lot of human beings so oppressive and harassing. It is as though the integrity and keeping of the animal machine were broken up, and all its organs so jarred, that a union into one monstrous hydra was formed of the diseases of each.

superabundantly formed by the diseased membrane which produces it, and lines every cavity of the body, obstruction of bile occasionally ensues. Pain in the right side, right shoulders, jaundice and head-ache come on. Sometimes the urine is diminished by the same cause; viz. the extension of the disease to the kidneys, and their excretory ducts. The diminution of the urinary secretion, in consequence, is attended with violent pain in the back, lower part of the belly, hindermost parts of the thighs, and affections of the brain, chiefly felt at the origin of the nerves.\*

Having never been described, the above form of disorder is usually called "liver disease," a general name to which a very ample "cohors morborum" is made to answer by those who cannot think for themselves, and hence are incompetent to discern new from old diseases. The doctrines which ascribe all diseases to one organ, have been very popular varieties of empiricism in this country. Forgetting that no carriage can go upon one wheel, the monorganic theorist, like the mono-maniac, who is insane upon one point only, ascribes to the stomach,

\* See an Essay, by the author, on the "Relations which exist between the Kidneys and other organs of the Human Body."

the blood-vessels, or the liver,\* singly, diseased states, which may originate in the brain and nervous system, affect the mucus membranes in different parts of the body, and produce ultimate diseased conditions of *all* the great glandular viscera.

Cases of jaundice, after long residence in warm climates, with a torpid condition of the liver and bowels, and a disordered state of the stomach, are among the staple commodities of this place. No class receives more benefit. An assemblage of migrators of this description in our walks has been compared to the *dramatis personæ* in the dance of death. The gradual conversions of the icteric visage, from the influence of the waters, were almost like the miraculous rising up and covering of the dry bones in the valley, as described by the Prophet. As the fleeting colours of Iris, or the dying dolphin of the poet, now, “another and another hue succeeds,” till the livid characters of the disease are wholly obliterated.†

\* Whichsoever of them is the pet.

† An author observes, “ For the removal of that disposition to diseases of the liver, which Europeans who have inhabited warm climates are so apt to experience, nature has provided a most efficacious remedy; viz. the

Chronic rheumatism, a malady which Mr. Hunter would have called both local and constitutional, and which Dr. Jenner would have considered to be an exchange of a diseased action in a part not vital for one seated in a vital part, is often cured here by the constitutional removal of the latent affection or morbid disposition of muriate of lime, which constitutes the active ingredient of almost every natural mineral water. Thus, Cheltenham has long been known to afford great relief to those invalids who return from India and the West Indies ; and that the muriate of lime is its principal active ingredient, there can be no doubt."—(Adam Dodd's *Physical Guide*, p. 288.) This effect, attributed to the muriate of lime contained in the Cheltenham Waters, is a chimera, founded in ignorance of the principles upon which the waters act. Their genuine effects are these : that, as with all other purgatives, and some poisons, they are received as irritants by the constitution, and actions are excited to get rid of them. These actions consist in the pouring forth of all the secretions connected with the seats which they affect, of which the end is to produce the removal of the irritant. Health is the result of the impulse of these excitements. Whether the muriate of lime, as a drug, causes the effect imputed to it, I know not. There are cases of so obstinate constipation of the bowels, from torpid liver, that it might be well to try it. In these frequently the Cheltenham waters do not suffice.

the internal organ which gives rise to it.\* Dr. Jenner says, "If we don't make diseases to remove those of the liver, nature sometimes does. From a simple pimple to a sore leg, local affections are remedies for a diseased liver; and on those principles liver disease is treated in the East Indies. In proportion to the quantity of diseases accumulated about the liver, will be the degree of spontaneous affection which shoots out on the skin, from the gouty erysipelas to the venous inflammation of gout."

Certain open-hearted rosy-gilled persons, habitually respectful to Bacchus and Apicius, and subject to irregularity of the stomach and liver, but otherwise sound in constitution, are liable after wine, or convivial round-sitting over the cigar, to scaly eruptions on the chin and cheeks. Apparently these are mere redundancies of cuticle, but, in fact, the surface of the true skin is inflamed. With others, instead of this disease, the bacchanalian evening is followed by the strange unnatural hectic of a permanent blush. These also the waters remove, but without a system of restriction and self-denial they

\* On the same principles many eruptive may be made to undergo a safe and radical cure.

return. Similar furfuraceous eruptions occur, with some people, every spring and autumn. The more powerful are the forces of the constitution, the greater is the distance from the centre *upward*, at which nature sets about her processes. Accordingly, in persons of sound stamina, they appear most on the face, thorax, and region of the stomach. When they retire from the upper parts, and afterwards appear about the lower extremities, they become "monitors that feelingly persuade us what we are." In hypochondriasis, when it arises from gradual and general fulness, attended with obesity, and the signs of a full state of the blood-vessels of the liver and spleen, the waters afford benefit. The possessors of this melancholy disease consist generally of such persons as just described — free livers, and of full habit.

The liver, as being the largest organ in the body, and prior in receiving the returned blood of the lower extremities and abdomen, primarily acquires an undue plenitude from excess of nutrition, or checks of the exterior circulation. Here it accumulates first, and then fills the right side of the heart, which is inclined towards this great organ to admit its ample tide through several great venous trunks. Next, as a natural consequence, the superfluity extends to the lungs.

These being loaded, the left side of the heart will be embarrassed by an excess which it can no longer distribute with equal ease through organs already gorged, and hence, sooner or later, the unequal proportion is urged in the first line of the circulation ; viz. the head. The brain is also made liable to an interrupted and slow circulation in its great venous sinusses from the more impeded descent of the venous blood from the head to the lungs, through the engorged state of the latter. In these cases nature frequently tenders immediate relief by certain salutary processes which lessen the circulating mass ; viz. hæmorrhoidal discharges,\* discharges of blood from the stomach, lungs, and nose, by great evacuations of mucus from the mucous membrane of the intestines by stool, by purging of bile, or vomiting, and surcharge of the urinary secretion: *Before other signs*, the mind of the

\* My late warm friend, Col. K. being devoted to angling, stopped certain hæmorrhoidal discharges, which inconvenienced him in locomotion, by excessive doses of Ward's Paste, when uncontrollable morbid determination to the head followed, through which he died, after gradual effusion over the brain, in the course of one year. This is one of the numerous demonstrations of the folly of checking processes meant for the relief of an altered and fuller state of the constitution.

patient is gloomy, his bowels are torpid, (for the activity of the liver in secreting is always diminished by fulness,) his eye lacks lustre, his presages concerning himself are dark and unpropitious. The waters with alteratives, bloodletting general or local, warm bathing, with the rules of life as described hereafter, are generally successful. These complaints occur most at an age when the constitution seems to be forced towards some change beneficial in its ends, but often formidable in its nature, for the extrication of the individual from the effects of redundancy and over nutrition.

Three years ago, in the case of a gentleman at Bath, hepatic torpor, morbid determination to the head, and a most desponding irritable melancholy followed the disappearance of chronic rheumatism from the knees. This state had been of three or four months' duration. His relations wished me to see him. Neither the advice of a physician in a neighbouring city, of high repute in mental cases, nor the apothecaryism of the place could remove the bile, nor rase out the “written troubles of the brain.” Presuming that Horace's counsels in these cases, viz. to go to Antycyras and drink hellebore, would be most profitable to the patient ; I advised that, notwithstanding

standing his almost insuperable aversion from the step, he should be forced to Cheltenham. The result was, that the tutelary rheumatism, and “sana mens in corpore sano” were restored, to the astonishment of his friends, within a fortnight after his arrival in this town.

In mania, or in those predisposed to this most melancholy of human diseases, the waters have been charged with having done mischief. The recurrence of his late Majesty’s indisposition after visiting Cheltenham, and drinking the waters, brought a temporary cloud over the popularity of the place. As one, who is by his conscience bound to speak with honest fearlessness in every transaction of professional life, I do conceive that it were prudent in these cases to avoid the waters. A gentleman, and particular friend of Mr. Brougham, came to Cheltenham and drank the waters, for some derangement of the digestive organs, under the care of a physician, and friend of mine. His general health improved greatly; but, to the surprise of his physician, he had on this event a sudden and complete return of insanity, to which, at some former period, he had been subject. Is this the effect of over fulness from increased nutrition, or of a chalybeate impregnation of the waters?

Although these cautions are honestly spoken, the *amænitates loci*, enlivened habits, a surface freely stirred into life, gradually help to while away these habitual ideas, which enchain the faculties without destroying them, and break here and there a link of those melancholy associations which gather strength from sameness of situation, pursuits, and objects. It is a great point, by gentle intrusions of things, to beguile the observation, and raise doubt of those hallucinations which appear real to many *malades* of this class ; as the elegant conversation and playful habits of Pekuah and the Princess are feigned to have displaced the prepossession of the astronomer in Rasselas, that he held the government of the stars. Cases with a predisposition there be, however, and too numerous, where the “ delicate chain of thought, once tangled, never clears again.”\*

\* Since this last sentence flowed from the pen, a lady, suffering from that peculiar melancholy which is so often mingled with hysterics, and always excited by love or religion, or both, has been placed under my care. Her case had been previously treated by one eminent physician, and two other medical men. Her bodily health is now greatly improved ; but her mental health is little changed. No hereditary predisposition could be traced.

In the local forms of scrofula, *e. g.* enlargements and abscesses about the glands of the neck, armpits, elbows, &c. a general alterative course is always of service preparatory to steel.

In those diseases which originally spring from the illicit Venus, the waters avail much. I have seen enough to be convinced that "secondary symptoms" are frequently mere specific *local* effects of a diseased condition of the whole constitution, excited in the first place by the influence of an animal poison upon it. For whether "secondary symptoms" be present or absent, sleepiness, showing defective energy of the brain and nervous system, constant chilliness, indicating inactive circulation, cough, want of appetite, muscular torpor, and pains of joints, follow the venereal disease. In such, whether or not secondary symptoms exist, a course is of the greatest use as preliminary to restoratives, bark and sarsaparilla, mercury, &c. When similar symptoms follow the injudicious use of mercury, or want of care against cold after its use, the same rules apply. The symptoms may recur, but the recurrent symptoms assume a weaker form every time. Among my notes I have numerous cases in proof of my positions. The constitutional injury described, and caused either by the dis-

ease or remedy, is the great source of the ravages of scrofula in the present day.

Finally, there are many irregular forms of disordered health, which follow acute distempers, free habits of life, and neglect of the regular functions, in which the organs of secretion perform their offices incorrectly; to these also the waters apply.

In the form of disease first described, dyspepsia, a course of the waters is beneficial previous to the use of steel, bismuth, and tonics. In the mucous disease, the morning dose, by carrying off the vitiated mucus accumulated in the intestines during the night, prevents the muscular languor and dejection which otherwise occur. A *malade* of this class, under my care, used to weep like a child with depressed spirits, unless when he took the waters before breakfast.\*

\* A lady afflicted with the mucous disease of the alimentary tube who had been under the care of Dr. Bailey, Mr. Copeland, several Continental and English provincial physicians, and also myself, has recovered after the lapse of five years, chiefly through the use of a half-grain dose of calomel nightly, for several months, affording an excellent illustration of Mr. Abernethy's doctrine of the final good effects of minute alteratives.

*Principles upon which the Saline Waters should be administered.*

The great natural researches of Mr. Hunter into the physiology of man, and the lower classes of animals, induced a conclusion in his powerful mind, that in every animal body the stomach was the organ of primary importance; that though some animals existed without a brain or heart, all were possessed of a stomach. That it was liable to receive reflex morbid impressions from other diseased parts, however distant, as well as to generate, by primary erroneous actions peculiar to itself, diseases elsewhere. The doctrines of Mr. Abernethy, concerning the constitutional causes of local diseases, the efficacy of constitutional treatment, (viz. by alteratives,) seem to have been conceived from this view of the precedence of the stomach, by his illustrious preceptor. The eminent station of Mr. Abernethy, and the popularity of Dr. Hamilton's work on the use of Purgative Medicines, have brought these kindred systems into so great repute, as to constitute the chief part of the actual practice of modern medicine.

Admitting that these doctrines have become

gradually more influential and acceptable; that chronic diseases, whether local or general, receive the best chance of successful treatment from means which tend to improve the general health, by restoring the healthy functions of the grand organs of secretion; it follows, that the natural remedies by which all this can be affected will be much sought.

With whatever satisfaction and complacency I may view the eligibility of the practice, which is deduced from these views, I would not willingly lie under the charge of looking to any single organ for the causes of disease. I am not disposed to pin my faith to men who would regulate the actions of the human frame by the single influence of the stomach, liver, or any other organ. The most ample consideration of the relative importance of the different parts of the frame have long induced a belief in my mind that the brain and nerves are the regulating powers both of its physical and moral operations, and that either from mental or physical causes, they yield in the first place in most constitutional diseases, and lay the foundations of the disorders of the more mechanical and automatical parts of the frame. It may be said, in figure, that the brain is the executive authority, the heart is premier, the stomach is first lord of the

treasury, the liver is secretary for the home department, the kidneys ministers for foreign affairs.

The aggrandizement of one organ over all others, remind us of the philosophers in Hudibras, who mistook the fly in the telescope for an elephant in the sun, setting a cloud of false perceptions around the object of their search, instead of the transparency and pure light of truth.

It is absurdly argued by some persons, that no greater benefit can be derived from natural springs than from artificial salts taken at home, with no deviation from the ordinary habits of the individual. Whatever nature may provide for any particular purpose, is much better calculated to fulfil it than any imitations of art. The qualities of our Saline Waters peculiarly befit them for alteratives inimitable both for their action and efficacy. By some nicety of atomic division, and natural principles of solution, they enter with a rapidity into the circulation, act with an exemption from pain, and work a change upon the visible and real health of the individual, which, in most instances, no artificial remedy can compass in the same lapse of time. It is sufficient to say, that they possess that perfection over the work of men's hands which was designed by that providence in generating them, which

shows in the end of every thing created for human uses, the perfection of wisdom.

Upon these points I must lay a great stress. The Saline Waters, previous to their action, excite no pain of the bowels, disturb neither the appetite nor locomotion of the individual, give a short warning and pass off rapidly. Did we wish, on simple scientific principles, or accurate observation of the qualities of a salutary purgative, to constitute one which should be most applicable to a principal part of those diseases which affect the brain, stomach, and liver, these properties would be the most desirable. Considerable habitual disorder of the stomach and bowels in my own person, more ample observation of it in others, convince me, that in stomach complaints, and bilious affections, the painless purgative is indispensable. In these diseases gentleness "is twice blessed," for drastics excite increased irritation of the stomach itself, with greater feebleness of the organ in digestion, and spasm of the bowels, and general feverishness. By means of the milder agents the valetudinarian may greatly improve, though he will never, in disordered functions of the stomach, liver, or bowels, referrible to constitutional causes, recover complete and permanent health, nor root out the dispositions to return. What candid or dis-

interested man of experience would assert, that stomach complaints, or chronic diseases in general, are ever permanently and completely “medicable?”

No individual remedy is sufficient of itself to call forth the whole circle of actions which must needs be excited in constitutional diseases. It detracts not from the waters that they seek other allies in the *materiæ medicæ*. The great general principle is to combine with their more exclusive action upon the mucous membrane of the alimentary tube, a simultaneous eduction of the other essential secretions; viz. those of the skin, liver, and kidneys. In fact, a truly scientific and constitutional application of them requires that *all* the secretions should be called into action simultaneously, that the equilibrium of the secretions should not be deranged by attracting the maximum of the circulation to one secreting surface. A more enlightened scheme than this, I cannot conceive. Acting up to this principle, I have prescribed usually a combination at night, which tends to elicit the perspiration, bile, and urine, previous to the waters in the morning, conjoined, sometimes, with the warm bath in the day.\* These prospective actions are assisted,

\* The physicians of this place prescribe guiacum, James's Powder, and calomel, nightly. Some of the

likewise, by exercise. After warm bathing, should there be a disposition to morbid determinations to the head, not uncommon to persons with torpid livers, and full hæmorrhoidal veins, blood-letting, by venæsection, or cupping, is generally used to befit them for commencing or renewing the course.

At the offset the Cheltenham Waters excite an evanescent head-ache, of which I have proof in a lady from Wales, now under my care. The case is an exchange of diarrhœa for an affection of the head. She is now convalescent!

I have seen two cases in which, at the beginning, they brought on fever, quick pulse, hurried breathing and flushed face, which were immediately relieved by blood-letting.

Soon after the writer first resided in Cheltenham, he was struck forcibly by the evil consequences, which appeared in very many cases to

most popular use also, with the waters in the day, the chlorine pediluvium of Dr. Helenus Scott, *alias* Acid Bath, and report highly of its effects. Indeed, though regarded by men of science elsewhere as a chimera, this practice is in great vogue here in cases of torpor of the liver. Mr. Hingston, who sends out numerous tubs, tells me that all depends on the purity and concentration of the muriatic acid, which should be white, and not brown, as is the acid of commerce.

result from drinking the waters *alone*. Among his notes he finds the case of a delicate female, liable to sick head-aches, and of bilious habit, who drank them *con amore* during the summer months. They increased greatly the action of the mucous membrane of the bowels, whilst the sensations of the skin, which had always been torpid, pale, or yellow, became less natural; the susceptibility of cold was greater, the extremities were chilly, and the want of sensible perspiration, more obvious. At last the autumnal vicissitudes of our climate set in, and after one of a series of catarrhs, the symptoms of subacute inflammation of the liver betrayed themselves. These were relieved by the usual means, but still sensations of heat and pain about the abdomen, with fever, which had pre-existed for some time, were excited by approaching a fire to a degree almost intolerable. Next came unequivocal symptoms of inflammation of the general peritoneal surface,\* as also of the muscular coat, with evacuation of bile, mucus, and blood, with excessive pain. She felt as though a plate of hot iron was laid betwixt the bowels and skin of the abdomen. The irritation of the mucous membranes seems

\* Outer coat of the bowels, and cavity of the abdomen.

to have arisen chiefly from the passage of acri-monious bile, and turgescence of blood. A learned friend and physician took the waters simply, in the same sort, during the summer and autumn. Heedless of the warnings of the writer, he persevered to the edge of winter, when he was seized with the most severe catarrh he ever had in his life. Such examples are manifold. I would thus explain the causes of these effects. By determining a great mass of blood to the mucous membrane of the bowels, which is the first effect of saline purgatives, such as the Cheltenham waters, the equilibrium of the circulation betwixt the skin and mucous membranes is broken, and the superfluity distributed to the latter. Hence, this increased internal distribution of blood to the intestines causes a similar super-abundance to be returned through the liver and spleen to the right side of the heart and lungs. The skin being rendered more susceptible of chills, by the want of a more ample circulation of arterial blood, and of the consequent generation of a sufficient degree of animal heat, still more of its circulation is added progressively to that which is accumulated already in the internal viscera after the first complete shock. Is it in this case, extraordinary, that successive rigors and febrile excitements, as imperfect efforts

of salutary reaction, should follow this irregular state of the circulation, and inflammatory affections finally be brewed up?

For caution's sake it may also be added, from experience, that many in the end render that an evil to themselves, from which they may have before received the greatest benefit; I mean by continuing to drink the waters in health or sickness, for long periods of time, without any definite object.

I think that I have also seen, that when *some*, who have been what are called Annual Drinkers, omitted their yearly course, the constitution has felt the change, and acute disease has made its appearance. A full periodical evacuation, whether natural or artificial, cannot always be safely interrupted.

I know not from which of these two causes a certain epitaph, *said* to have *existed* in the churchyard of the place, arose:

“Here I lie, and my two daughters,  
We died from drinking the Cheltenham Waters.”

Others, I suppose, have spoken of these important matters, but to the evidence of his own senses, not to writers, has the author been indebted for the knowledge of them in the first instance.

When there are added to the eminent qualities of our Nepenthe judiciously used, the grand conducive advantages of travel, of change from the monotony of accustomed objects to the vivid impressions of a most lively watering-place, and such modifications of habits, as situation requires, it is evident how much more must be called into action for the benefit of any patient than can be brought to bear in home-life, by artificial remedies. The whole system of the circulation is under the control of an idea, and every function of the body may be changed from disorder to order, and the very opposite of two states of feeling may be created in this miscellany of human beings.

Change of air is another auxiliary. Affections of the stomach and alimentary tube, and mirasmus are sometimes singularly benefited by change of air, after all other things have failed. In two cases of the mucous disease with harassing cough, change from the situation where the disease was generated, restored the patients. Being once on a visit to the Rev. Rowland Hill, a woman at Wotton Under-edge, in whom he was charitably interested, was so affected, and given up by Dr. Jenner and a surgeon, for phthisis. Having formed a contrary opinion, I recommended change of place; she went to

Weymouth, and returned well. In whatever atmosphere a disease is generated, whether of the lungs, or mucous membrane of the thorax (chest) or alimentary tube, that air is the worst which the patient can breathe. He must go elsewhere. The occupant of narrow valleys often finds relief in an open country; of vales with a light atmosphere, in a mountainous situation.

When residing with Dr. Jenner, in the interval betwixt my studies in London and Edinburgh, I suffered much from dyspepsia in the low and damp wooded vale about Berkeley. Going from thence to Bath, to make a stay with my learned and ingenious friend, the present Dr. Parry, I lost the dyspepsia; and departing thence to Edinburgh, a bolder atmosphere, recovered entirely. Dr. Parry himself had recovered by a removal from Bath to Cheltenham. Dr. B. a friend of the writer, and then an undergraduate at Edinburgh, suddenly lost his strength, flesh, and appetite, without any evident local disease. He went to a multitude of the most eminent—one pythagorized the case with low diet and laxatives; another attacked it with steel and stimuli; but neither availed. One day he consulted me concerning the melancholy tendency of his case, and determined to abide by the advice given. My observation was, “If you stay here, you will

die, notwithstanding a thousand systems, and like the Emperor Adrian, you may write over your tomb, “*Perii turbā Medicorum.*” But go to England, where the atmosphere is different, and into the country, and you will recover.” He left Edinburgh with me by sea, and passed into Essex, where he stayed six months. The next winter he returned to Scotland, instead of a “hollow-eyed, sharp-looking wretch, a living dead man,” fat, and in high health and condition.

Cheltenham is not, as it has been ignorantly supposed, a dock for unshipped livers merely; but the active member of the senate, the man of science, of fancy, the commercial man, the speculatist, the lover, and the poet, form a great proportion of those who compose the morning visitors of its numerous physicians, and quaff the springs which the earth here so bountifully affords. After all, however, neither these nor the salubrious rides nor walks, nor its bold Cotswell air, have exclusively obtained for Cheltenham pre-eminence over most other British watering-places, and stripped Bath of its gaudy day as a place of the like description; but it is the potent charm of its moral as much as of its natural advantages which have helped to prevail. It is the indiscriminate mixture of many things mightily well contrived for the diversity of human dispo-

sitions, affording the most sovereign remedy on earth for as many shades of blue devils, as even Burton has depicted in the doleful frontispiece of the “Anatomie of Melancholy;” an enlivening Parisian gaiety, a residing and investing spirit, which take from the sameness felt after a while in most places of the kind. To most such, the shepherd’s remark in “As You Like it,” is applicable. “In respect that it is solitary, I like it very well; but in respect that it is private, it is a very vile life. Now, in respect it is in the fields, it pleaseth me very well; but in respect it is not in the court, it is very tedious.”

A modern novel exclaims against the want of that broad and interminable scope and variety in Cheltenham, which the insatiate voluptuary finds in London. But were Cheltenham London, it would no longer be Cheltenham.

The luxuries of watering-places, and the character which they assume, appear to be fashioned after certain biasses of human nature, which exist most where the mind is most refined. Horace wished to be borne to Baia (Baiis amænis), and Virgil exclaimed, in lays of exquisite melody and enthusiasm :

“ Rura mihi et rigui placeant in vallibus amnes;  
Flumina amem sylvasque inglorius. O ubi campi,  
Spercheosque, et virginibus bacchata Lacænis  
Taygeta : ô, qui me gelidis in vallibus Hæmi  
Sistat, et ingenti ramorum protegat umbrâ !”

In fact, as Thomson says,

" The best of men have ever loved repose."

" The love of rural scenery," says a late elegant traveller, " is inseparable from true taste." There seems to be but one passion akin to this exquisite melancholy, which is love. The sudden impressions of the particular beauties, the ideal graces of an admired object, her innocence, her emotions, her thoughts, the incongruous and delighted ideas with which we regard her silently and apart, in inward communion with feelings too deep and solemn for applause, and too full of wonder at the mysterious power to which we are subjected, to be capable of utterance, alone, strike to the soul with a more inexplicable and pure force than the living sensibility to the charms of nature, which exists in some minds. Intercourse with nature, in this kind, seems to come upon us when other things fail. It seems even necessary that much of what is called happiness should be lost, that our interest in the world's business should be somewhat alienated and surfeited, to fit us and render us susceptible of this power, or what may almost be called a new sense.

There are two kinds of scenery which differ in their moral relations to the purposes of human

habitation, and of civilized life. The Alps, capped in the eternal snows, robed with the glacier, the icy breeze from which congeals the spray of the cascade upon the garb of the traveller, the desolate and chaotic groups of the North Highlands, where the convulsions of creation are displayed in inaccessible rocks, in agitated seas approaching over the scattered fragments of massy debris, the stupendous precipice, the headlong torrent, and hoary mountain, where “the foot of man has scarce or never trod,”—the savage rudeness of a before undiscovered country, the appalling silence scarcely interrupted but by the voice of savage things, the magnificent foliage and long shadows of trees of wild and ancient growth, the forest without limits to the eye, the rank fecundity of uncultivated pastures, the uncontrolled dominion of nature, compose solitudes to which the ardent curiosity, and penetrating genius of man for once may compel him to intrude and sate his longings; but no farther. Here his attachment terminates. Scenes of this order are best calculated for those in whom the love of nature is stronger than the love of social life. The interest awakened is widely different from that which seeks the ordinary gratifications of life. It is connected with the love of mental

independence, with the aching grasp of a mind without verge enough for the abundance of its desires, a pride of heart uncomformable to ordinary habits, to the "stale, flat, and unprofitable" yesterdays and to-days of the same circumscribed sphere of society, and a wandering and untamed spirit which revels in solitude and majesty, in remoteness and wild grandeur. Such a one, who deems that "society is no comfort to one not sociable," whose physical restlessness can be appeased only by endless locomotion, feels free and unincumbered in such scenes, and breathes forth the active emotion of his soul amidst the realizations of his imagination. But these are the individualities of particular temperaments, in which the corporeal being sinks into insignificance, and the mind expands to corresponding dimensions of sublimity with the external objects that surround it.

But there is a secondary cast of scenery, where nature presents more feminine graces than amidst the anarchy of chaos; where to the wooded glen, the gentle cataract, the acclivity of the mountain, the extensive landscape, the winding meanders of rivers, the slopes of vales, the pomp and garniture of fields, and serene azure of the sky, not many obstacles are conjoined which may render indispensable the commodiousness of

tamer situations. This second order, indeed, rather than taking from the physical and social reciprocations and agencies of life, may tend to heighten the comfort and embellish the repose of elegant and philosophical existence, by the insensible ascendancy which it obtains over the succession of our ideas, by the inspiration of more calm contemplations, unartificial tastes, and sublime habits of thought. In the choice of retirements these qualities of inanimate nature appear to be most looked for, according to the taste of the age, by those classes of society,—which are not remarkable for any thing more than cultivation and refinement of mind.

In the situation and form of Cheltenham, the medley of trees and houses, of town and no town, is quite as whimsical as even Peter Pastoral could have desired :

“ *Platanusque cœlebs  
Evincit ulmos : tum violaria, et  
Myrtus, et omnis copia narium,  
Spargent olivetis odorem,  
Fertilibus domino priori.* ”

And though

“ *Jam pauca aratro jugera regere  
Moles relinquunt,* ”

Public enterprise, to satisfy public favour, must needs be “hugely turned to architecture;” it will be well in despite of private interests, for the local community, to guard this great charm of the place. Destroy it, and Cheltenham is no more!

Albeit some fears may be entertained for it. In the distant meadow, when the ear awhile attended the song of the nightingale in an evening saunter, or the matin of the lark in a dewy morning, many weeks, nay days, not having elapsed, the pedestrian is saluted with the sound of the trowel, the passing to and fro of wheelbarrows, unseemly gaps in nature, bustling workmen in their clay-coloured garbs, and shells of houses and streets started up like apparitions, or the creations of the Genii of the enchanted Ring. At Pitt-ville turfed esplanades, terraces, plantations, a lake and bridge, some houses of a projected range of magnificent buildings, and a part of the pump-room, in rapid ascent, are already formed. The speculative condition of Cheltenham, at the present moment, is very interesting. It somewhat resembles a mind of towering ambition, dedicated to all or nothing,” *aut Cæsar, aut nullas!*

The soul is refreshed when the eye plays over

the blent of elegant habitations, foliage, and slopes of earth steeped in the delicious green of summer. Where we hope to go down the vale of years, we would view with calm delight the unexcluded sapling become a tree, and wave its green leaves in serene shade and veiling shelter over the ornamented villa, which now glistens with the too new and white glare of the chisel, but hereafter sobered and harmonized by the touch of time.

It is an absurd mistake of strangers who suppose that Cheltenham is comprised in one street. The High-street, without doubt, is the vital trunk, and serves much to make up that delectable medley which characterises this thriving colony of pleasure. It is long, and M'Adam-fashioned ; up and down it the “*nova incrementa*” of the *drag* genus whirl the summer's day long, at the same time that the pavements exhibit the many coloured creations that come and disappear like ephemera, and disport in hues all different, and therefore none singular. It is, in fact, but a portion of Bond-street transferred into the country for the convenience of those who like to have the choicest part of London moved elsewhere in the summer months.

The Wells too ; much indeed is the town

indebted to Mr. Thompson for the Montpellier Spa, like a fane of Greece, with music at early “morn and dewy eve,” and the philandering esplanade hedged in from the sun, and peopled with the gathered throng of fashion and beauty. Next, the Old Well, not more excellent for its famous No. 4, than for the Old Walk, and its avenue of venerable elms; the youth of which (for now they are the growth of a century) reminds us of the old King and Queen, of Ranelagh costumes, the Old Melton Mowbray hunt coats, and Cheltenham bonnets. Lifting their veteran heads and magnificent foliage over the younger subalterns of the sylvan tribe, which bower around the costly fronts of stately mansionry, or latticed walls of adorned cottages, the light “dim and religious,” as if reflected from past days, breaks so tempered and serene through the high boughs, that people may walk there even at noon-tide in the dog-days, cool, as though they rode shaded and o’er-canopied in a palanquin. This walk is about the best thing in Cheltenham, especially when the autumnal sunsets are falling on the green and yellow masses of foliage, and the year is stripping to the buff. It is more “exempt from public haunt” than the Montpellier, and so would we have it. It is suited to peripatetic foot-steps, and harmonizes with the imagination

of solitude, where, “under the shade of melancholy boughs,” we can “lose and neglect the creeping hours of time.”

Of the pleasing features of Cheltenham, these are not all; the annual drifting through of the talent and public character of the country, forms a great charm. In fact it is a scene in which people need not find the waste of life so wearisome, nor exclaim with Hamlet, Macbeth, or Megrime, “I am tired of all the uses of this world,”—“I have lived long enough,” or “I wish I had killed myself yesterday,” where, as in the groves of Blarney, we may meet Neptune, Plutarch, and Nicodemus, the “cozy old cove;” and the austere philosopher.

The Sherborne Spa vegetates as a sort of supererogation; but notwithstanding we are indebted to this undertaking for the conversion of a disagreeable tract of land into a long and noble approach to the other wells and walks. This walk is fenced in, and over-arched with birch, hazle, sycamore, mountain-ash, and shrubs. Here in the twilight of the fine evenings of summer, it is sweet to hear the night winds creep from leaf to leaf, and listen to the last foot-falls of the retiring crowd.

Since it is left to speak of those rules which

the valetudinarian should observe, to give efficacy to these grand natural agents, the first place is to be given to the regulation of the mind, its serenity and exemption from pain. What can be better fitted to beget a series of renovated and more cheerful feelings, to raise a placid brow and free the spirit from "the breath of agitation," than the numerous combined modes of pleasure of which the whole system of the place is productive. Without a thorough exclusion of all that can trouble and appal the spirit, of the "untold misery of the breast," no remedies can restore that health which is lost. But it is difficult to "cleanse the stuffed bosom of the perilous stuff which weighs upon the heart."

The poet has said truly, "There is a joy in grief, when peace dwells in the hearts of the sorrowful;" but it were well not to be much overcast with the shadows of this life, with sensibilities, that, like a natural poison, destroy that in which they live. There is a time for thinking "there is nothing serious in mortality," when we should "instruct our sorrows to be proud."

If the finer chords of our nature are to be struck, a language must be chosen which is intelligible to the mind, and correspondent to the feelings, to which it is addressed. The men-

tal conditions intimated form, in too numerous instances, the spring and perpetuating principle of human distempers, and if there be a healing power of words and admonitions, these utterances may not be in vain. They are in no manner the language of cant, but accurate representations of nature. To some living Jaques, who could task himself with matters of more remote use, the bruised mind and its treatment would not be a less worthy subject of a treatise than the grosser parts of our kneaded clay.

Cheltenham has been charged with being the emporium “ of loose life, unruly passions, and diseases pale ;” but this, like all general reflections, is wrong in some particular. That is imputed by it to a whole community, which can only be said of particular individuals. In a place dedicated solely to pleasure, there must be some modes of voluptuousness, which are more vicious than others. It must be expected that a “ certain little Western flower” called “ the love in idleness,” will grow kindly in a listless climate, not unlike that of the “ enchanting wizard :”\*

“ Where sooth to say,  
No living wight could work, nor ceased ever to play.”

\* Castle of Indolence.

‘Their only labour is to kill the time,  
And labour dire it is, and weary woe ;  
They sit, they loll, turn o’er some idle rhyme,  
Then, rising sudden, to the glass they go,  
Or saunter forth, with tottering step and slow ;  
This soon too rude an exercise they find ;  
Straight on the couch their limbs again they throw,  
Where hours and hours they sighing lie reclined,  
And court the vapoury god soft breathing in the wind.

But as the scum always floats upon the surface, and first seizes the eye, the loose and vicious parts attract regard, while the sounder and purer, which are the main, lie in quiet and unobtrusive recesses silent and half concealed.

He who comes here to “throw off the load of inauspicious stars,” and to seek a refuge from sickness and care, needs not and may not enter into the heated scenes where the human passions urge their extremes, where all is a pestiferous atmosphere of fevered and excited feelings, where the virtue and benignity of the human character gradually harden, through habitual dissipation, into insensibility and treachery, demoralization and bad faith ; where the heart is to be broken, the mind to be laid waste, and nature is to be banished—hope and enjoyment to be made artificial, and the intellect to be filled only with the dregs of human reason.

It is not in scenes like these, rousing the fluctuations of the spirit and images of darkness and distraction, that the invalid must mingle. His fashion of life should be without disorder or stir —like “a clear stream within an Alpine hollow.”

In high society there are three principal classes; one consists of individuals who, from the want of sensibility of strong motions of pain or pleasure, seldom deviate widely from a calm and judicious system of life. The second and more sentient class exemplifies the assertion that “quiet to quick minds is hell.” In this class are included those who gratify every passion, and rush at the impulse of the moment into every excess which tends to bodily destruction. The more temperate and placid conduct of life affords not to them the craved-for excitement, and in a state of passive exemption from vehement impressions and strong emotions the soul preys upon itself. Betwixt both, and above either, is the subjugated mind, in which reason and thought have conquered excess. In this class is found the man who lives according to nature, whose gratifications consist in the calm and rational enjoyment, which real simplicity and wisdom suggest. Such a man walks forth to see the lilies of the field how they grow, enjoys with a cultivated taste all the forms and

productions of beauty, which the earth affords to the senses and the soul, and curbs by the judgment of a disciplined mind the unwholesome biasses of humanity. Viewing life and nature as a philosopher, he adorns the intellect in the temple of the sun !

Were men seeking wisdom and health to fashion themselves thus, how much ruin of body and mind would be shunned ! how many hearts would be unbroken ! how much utter wretchedness avoided ! But to hold this ungregarious course, a *forte-tete* is required, which, in passing through “ that admirable compound of folly and knavery called the world,” is armed in double proof against the attractive spell of its mindless dissipation and grovelling sensuality, its cold neglect and jeering disapprobation.

Seeing how many resources in the external world to gratify intellectual feeling and good taste men of property in England possess, it is strange how utterly deficient the greater part are in both. Insensibility of the beauties of nature, discontent in retirement, unconsciousness of any sentiment but that of gratified ostentation, and apathy or dislike towards any pursuit of mind, characterize the habitual dispositions of the majority in the fairy places of art and nature. One half of the possessors of them seem to think

that happiness consists in hunting foxes, debauchery of every species, gambling, songs of bawdry, and a routine of existence as coarse as it is irrational.

Another fatal constitution of society in England, if not so vicious, is equally wretched in its intellectual character, and opposed to taste and nature; viz. that which is formed according to the cant and bigotry so prevalent in our times. It is hard to say how this pest, which seems where it gets possession to shut up the soul in a hollow misty gulf, and turn the mind against the beautiful influences of science and genius, should have come upon us. Perhaps it were owing to this cause, that as public principle has diminished, hypocrisy has increased.

In the more retiring circles of fashionable life, neither much regarded by the common herd, nor famed in the loud world, some individuals are scattered here and there, who relieve the languid and insipid tenor of ordinary existence by originality of thoughts and pursuits. The individuals alluded to are such as being of moods little disposed to fritter away life in the frivolity of common dissipation, seek resources in sundry and diversified pastimes of study, and in those subjects of speculation upon which most men have little time to bestow their attention, rather

than in the severer objects of fixed occupations. More contemplative than active, pondering upon all that comes in their way, a greater store of sentiment and general topics of conversation becomes theirs, than can fall to the lot of many men. Upon these persons, not unfrequently called eccentric by ordinary characters, a chaste and pure commerce with nature, and the love of great intelligences, shed not only an Ionian elegance, but beget a wise, happy, and harmonious frame, of mind.

On this topic I fear that I have entered into a too long digression. The rules of provend for persons out of health, vary but little. They express simply the abrogation of all fermented food, beer, ciders, fruits, pastry, and indigestible meats, for example, lamb, salmon, &c. Beverages should be more or less simple, according to circumstances. Persons labouring under much excitement and irritation should reduce the quantity of their stimuli very low. Where general debility exceeds excitement or irritation, a more liberal use of stimuli is compatible with the action of the waters.

The standard maxims for obtaining and continuing in the best health and condition, consist in the moderate use of animal food, taking only such in quality, quantity, and mode of cook-

ing, as shall produce no after sense of indigestion and oppression of stomach ; the avoiding of every thing whatsoever to which the habit is obnoxious, though the appetite be inclined ; going to bed at reasonable hours ; early rising, and more especially walking before breakfast. For this last practice sleep is lighter, thought clearer, and muscular strength more energetic. Indeed sluggishness is a great debilitant.

Again, true muscular exercise is not mere "good-natured lounging, sauntering up and down," just to provoke an appetite ; but such a degree of action as hurries the circulation by means of the compression of the muscles rapidly through the veins, increases and quickens the transmission of it through the lungs, excites all the secretions, especially that of the skin, and exhausts the quantity of irritability accumulated in the muscles.\* To rules of diet and exercise

\* The late Dr. Parry, of Bath, was a greater advocate for walking exercise, in nervous diseases, than any physician before or after him. He even made delicate women walk fifteen miles a-day. He compared the want of the stimulus of exercise to muscles to the effect of the want of light and water upon delicate plants ; that is, they languish, and grow weak and unnaturally irritable. He objected to horse exercise, as being good for the horses, but bad for the rider. Ac-

like these, it appears, our great pugilists adhere. Spring used no other when training at Prestbury, previous to his first battle with Langan ; he drank water with his dinner, and after it a pint of wine. Occasionally he took a laxative.

Dr. Duncan,\* jun. very judiciously observes, " By training, many diseases might be removed, and by living according to the same principles, general ill health might be commonly prevented." — " Again, it appears, that the whole secrets of training reduce themselves to principles which every man may practise, and ought to practise, so far as consistent with his business and other duties ; and in particular, we think, that they ought to be studied, thoroughly understood, and enforced by all those to whom, in consequence of accidental circumstances, the care of the health and lives of many individuals are entrusted." — " In a medical point of view, the principle to be followed is, that the food and labour should bear a just proportion to each other. When the quantity and quality of the

tion, however, must be regulated by power. There are cases of muscular feebleness, in which riding on horseback, or in a carriage, does most good by increasing the transmissions of blood through the lungs, without exciting the distressing weakness of muscular exhaustion.

\* *Art. DIETETICS, Enc. Britan.*

food is not limited by its expense, the best possible condition of the individual is attainable, by attending to the principles upon which training is conducted, and which resolve themselves into temperance without abstemiousness, and regular exercise in the open air. Mr. Jackson, the *Lord of the ring*, says, “that a man properly trained, feels himself light and *corky*, as the technical phrase is ; and that during a course of training the skin always become clear, smooth, well coloured, and elastic ; and that clearness of skin is the best proof of a man being in good condition. Another very striking effect of training is upon the lungs. Trained men can draw a much fuller inspiration, and retain their breath longer than others. But it is not only in the state of bodily health that the good effects of training are conspicuous ; for Mr. Jackson distinctly, and we believe correctly, states, that the mental faculties are always improved, the attention is more ready, and the perceptions are more acute. *From these observations some valuable hints may be derived by physicians, for the cure of many cutaneous and pulmonary diseases which obstinately resist the power of medicine.*”

These rules of training should certainly go along with the renovating system of treatment. To acquire *great* and improved strength by

means of it, *labour* will also be required. Though many who should be condemned to the “*right down slavery*” of it, would exclaim with the female after the tread-wheel: “I vishes that I had never a leg to valk with!”

But of training, somewhat of the happy influence will depend on original conformation. Its greatest advantages will be attained soonest, where there is a due correspondence betwixt the activity of the stomach and lungs. Men noted for the greatest strength, like the most powerful horses, possess generally capacious chests. The activity of chylification and circulation will be proportioned to the freedom and vigour of respiration and pulmonization which hence accrue. So also the heart’s action and the tone of the muscular system will arrive at the maximum, where the sanguifying process and the *wind* are in greatest perfection.

Of the Chalybeate Waters, I cannot say much; they are used but little. The greatest risk of producing morbid determinations to the head attends any random application of them. In a long standing case of the mucous disease of the alimentary tube, with torpor of the general functions, I prescribed them, but with small success.

Of those Saline Waters which contain a large

proportion of muriate of soda, but one opinion can be entertained, that they can be used with discretion in cases of torpid bowels only. The muriate of soda is too stimulating to call into action that state of the functions which is salutary. The drastic effect excites afterwards a more confirmed constipation. The cockney, who rushes from the centre and dusty regions of the metropolis at the first coming of the cuckoo and the anemone to relax the civic brow, and reposes his feelings corporeal and incorporeal on the calm sea-shore, deems it a bounden duty of his pilgrimage to drink of the ocean. Hence are engendered a diarrhœa, and that simple and interesting dilemma betwixt simultaneous vomiting and purging, which leave no very delible impression, that he who prescribes for himself has generally a fool for his physician. The Saline Waters, which, after the analysis of one thousand other spas, have been found to be *unique*, have gained for Cheltenham that abiding reputation which has gone forth into the world, and is incapable of decline, as long as the earth itself shall continue immutable and fixed. The Muriated Waters, akin to those of Leamington and Gloucester, it possesses in abundance, but throws into the back-ground as accessories only of dubious and adventitious value.

The Sulphuretted Waters here contain steel. One, in the orchard on the Old Well property, is strongly impregnated with sulphur. The physicians often prescribe them for skin diseases, with what success the writer has never been informed. Dr. Armstrong, who, as a *scientific* practitioner, is probably at the head of his profession, speaks enthusiastically in one of his works of the action of the Harrowgate Waters in sundry constitutional affections.

Below I subjoin the analysis of the waters of the various spas. The most popular Saline Waters are the No. 4 of the Old or Royal Wells, and the Nos. 4 and 6 of the Montpellier Spa.

The quantity of the water drank at one time depends on the habit of the patient's bowels—if slow, two eight ounce glasses *warm*, taken at two different times, with walking in the interval, will sometimes suffice. When very slow, or when the effect weakens from repetition, a solution of the contents of the waters obtained by evaporation and chrystalization is added. Some chemical objections have been raised to this practice; but as I do not pretend to understand them, nothing can be said on that head. All I know is, that to make any addition is better than to call the constitution into an inadequate degree of action. It is always worse for an abortive purgative. It

needs scarcely to be observed, that the warm season of the year only is suited to water-drinking.

I have now spoken of such arrangements between the patient and the external world, both in his mental and bodily relations, as are necessary to the beneficial use of the Cheltenham Waters. In these matters I have endeavoured to possess others no farther than I know myself.\*

After a course at Cheltenham, patients are sometimes sent to Malvern. Persons affected with scrofula, general debility, and weak powers of the digestive organs, are greatly benefited by the air and rock-filtered water of these mountains. Health seems to have sat her down among them, and there to have presented to man both these fluids in their greatest purity. Notwithstanding it may be suspected that the miracles performed at St. Anne's and the Holy Well are not a little helped out by the

\* For further pathological illustrations of the influence of the Cheltenham Waters, according to the auto-observation of cases, and the principles which I have proposed for the prosecution of such subjects, see Dr. M'Cabe's "Directions for Drinking the Cheltenham Waters."

donkey excursions up the zig-zag paths of the Worcestershire Beacon, so much practised by the visitor of these beautiful and magnificent scenes.

### ANALYSIS OF THE CHELTENHAM ROYAL, OR ORIGINAL WELLS.

No. I. The Original, or Old Well, contains in one pint of water as follows :

Specific Gravity, 1,0091.

	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda .....	58.20
Lime .....	6.21
Magnesia .....	2.54
Sulphate of Soda .....	14.56
	—
	81.51

It contains also a portion of Carbonate of Iron.

No. 2. Sulphuretted Saline.—Specific Gravity, 1,0089.

	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda .....	22.60
Lime .....	3.68
Magnesia .....	5.16
Sulphate of Soda .....	52.32
	—
	83.76

This water also contains Carbonate of Iron, and a large impregnation of Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas.

No. 3. Strong Chalybeate Saline.—Specific Gravity, 1,0083.

	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda .....	17.60
Lime .....	3.08
Magnesia .....	3.30
Sulphate of Soda .....	43.20
	<hr/>
	67.18

This water also contains a very large proportion of Carbonate of Iron, exceeding that of the general impregnation of the other waters of the place.

No. 4. Strong Saline.—Specific Gravity, 1,0122.

	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda .....	47.80
Lime .....	4.29
Magnesia .....	7.30
Sulphate of Soda .....	59.20
	<hr/>
	118.59

This water contains a proportion of Carbonate of Iron in addition to its large saline contents.

No. 5. Strong Sulphuretted Saline.—This water contains saline constituent parts similar to No. 2, and also a proportion of Carbonate of Iron. It besides contains a large impregnation of Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas, but little inferior in quantity to that in the Harrowgate waters. This water and No. 2 should be drank immediately at the pump, as the Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas rapidly disappears if not taken on the spot.

No. 6. Strong Muriatic Saline.—This well is so termed from the very large proportion of Muriate of Soda which it contains, together with other Saline ingredients. It was originally impregnated with Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas, but being for several years closed, it was, on re-opening in 1823, found to have lost its original qualities. The well was then excavated to a considerable depth, and the water found in it was submitted to analysis by Mr. Farraday, of the Royal Institution, London; he ascertained its contents to be as follows:

Specific Gravity, 1013; Gaseous impregnation, Carbonic Acid Gas only.

	GRAINS.
Carbonate of Lime .....	1.6
Sulphate of Lime .....	14.5
Magnesia.....	12.4
Soda .....	3.7
Muriate of Soda .....	97.0
	<hr/>
	129.2

This water besides contains a small quantity of Peroxide of Iron, also a very minute quantity of Nitrate of Silica, substances not before detected in any of the Cheltenham springs.

No. 2. has been described as sulphuretted without possessing any pretensions to the title. A slight impregnation of sulphuretted hydrogen is found only when the water is drank at the pump. But it appears to possess some more chalybeate

properties than Dr. Scudamore and other analyticalists have ascribed to it.

No. 5. A very strong sulphur water (strong sulphuretted Saline), is situated under a shed in the orchard.

The No. 4, (strong Saline) of this well, is the monarch water of the whole group for real utility and popularity.

No. 3, is almost as strongly impregnated with iron as any water in Cheltenham.\* It is certainly a very valuable Chalybeate. I found it no bad plan, with very delicate and debilitated females, to alternate a strong Chalybeate with a saline, the patient taking one the one morning the other on the next morning. The Chalybeate waters may be drank twice a day, twelve ounces in the morning and eight in the evening. After having premised the Saline waters as an alterative, I have taken them myself, after this fashion, with much advantage.

No. 6, (strong muriated Saline) was re-opened two years since. Mr. Farraday analysed it, and Dr. Creaser wrote in praise of it, but, probably for the reasons assigned, p. 192, its great popularity *at first* was afterwards much diminished.

\* Dr. Scudamore.

## MONTPELLIER SPA.

No. 1. Strong Chalybeate Saline; contains in a pint,

	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda .....	55.50
Lime .....	3.31
Magnesia .....	2.10
Sulphate of Soda .....	21.80
	<hr/>
	82.71

Oxyde of Iron a minute portion.

Here again the name conveys a falsehood. "It now scarcely contains any Chalybeate impregnation; I am certain not half a grain of iron in a gallon." Thus Dr. Scudamore. It is "a Saline aperient alterative water, containing a very slight impregnation of iron, so as not to be objectionable on this account, except with a patient to whom this ingredient is forbidden even in a small quantity."

No. 2. Strong Sulphuretted Saline Water.

*Medical Properties.*—Of much the same power as No. 1, except that it has less of the Muriate of Soda and Magnesia.

No. 3. Equally aperient with No. 2, less of Muriate of Lime, and more of Muriate of Magnesia.

## No. 4.

	In a pint.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda .....	50.0	
Sulphate of Soda .....	15.0	
Magnesia .....	11.0	
Lime .....	4.5	
		—
		80.5

*Medical Properties.*—A Saline water, which appears to be wholly free from iron, but contains a good proportion of all the saline ingredients.

No. 5. Sulphuretted and Chalybeated Magnesian Spring, or bitter Saline Water.

	In a pint.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda .....	23.50.	
Lime .....	4.92	
Magnesia .....	3.61	
Sulphate of Soda .....	38.80	
		—
		70.83

Oxide of Iron a minute portion.

Once again is a sulphuretted water, “*not shewing any sulphuretted impregnation*,” and a “*chalybeated*” water with little or no iron. But “*it possesses a fuller impregnation both of aperient salt and of the most important muriates than the other waters.*” Thus, whilst it is made to claim

properties which do not belong to it, those are concealed which it really possesses.\*

These fictitious baptisms of mineral waters remind me of a great liar, who, having been first educated as a tailor, was afterwards inducted into an apothecary's shop. Alfred (that was his name) being brought before the magistrates concerning a circumstance which occurred in his tailorship, was first asked, "You are Alfred —, a tailor?"—"There *was*," said Mendax,

\* In speaking of the *names*, I mean no disparagement of the *waters* of any Spa. Much has been contributed to the elegance and popularity of Cheltenham by the external magnificence and spirited scheme of amusements of the Montpellier Spa, and much to the health of the sick by its waters. To injure these a bribe-worthy effort was made by Dr. Adam Neale. The flimsy writings of a man, who had been bribed with Government titles (these *blushing* honours were thick upon him), to abuse Sir John Moore, and screen the administration, for not conquering Napoleon and his armies with 30,000 half-starved troops, and for not feeding them with his favourite prescription of carrion, (viz. the flesh of the horses which dropped in the retreat,) need have provoked much less regard. (See Life of Sir John Moore, by his brother; and Neale's Campaigns in the Peninsula; likewise a criticism of the latter in the Edinburgh Review of that period).

“ one *Alfred* —, a tailor, but *my name is Augustus!*”

No. 6. Saline Chalybeate.

	In a pint.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda .....	76.15	
Lime .....	3.07	
Magnesia .....	3.02	
Sulphate of Soda.....	11.62	
		93.86

Oxide of Iron a minute portion.

It is less aperient than No. 4, but contains more Muriate of Magnesia.

SHERBORNE SPA.

The pumps are four in number.

No. 1. Sulphureous and Chalybeate.

	In a pint.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda .....	3.31	
Lime .....	1.23	
Magnesia (a trace)		
Sulphate of Soda .....	4.37	
		8.91

Oxide of Iron half a grain in a gallon.

“ A mild Chalybeate and light alterative Saline.”

## No. 2. Pure Saline.

In a pint.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda .....	72.08
Lime .....	4.29
Magnesia .....	59
Sulphate of Soda .....	6.78
	<hr/>
	84.44.

*Properties.*—Slightly aperient, chiefly a Saline alterative water.

## No. 3. Magnesian Water (improperly so called).

In a pint.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda .....	1.67
Lime .....	1.85
Magnesia (a trace !)	
Sulphate of Soda .....	2 43
	<hr/>
	5.95.

“It is altogether a very weak water.”

No. 4. The same in every respect as the *pure Saline*  
No. 2.

The Sherborne waters therefore are “Saline, aperient, and alterative,” designating by the term aperient the Sulphate of Soda as the ingredient; and by the term alterative the Muriates of Lime and Magnesia.\*

The action of tests is the same as on the

\* The strongest of the Sherborne waters is more of a Saline alterative than Saline aperient.

waters of the Montpellier Spa, “the effects varying only in degree.”—“The reader can readily draw a comparison between the relative strength of the different waters.”

Recently a pure water, like those of Malvern, has been discovered at the Sherborne. The spring is called St. Anne’s, after the noted well upon the Worcestershire Beacon. Families are supplied upon moderate terms with this great comfort, for the common water of Cheltenham is by no means generally free from foreign flavours. Tolerably pure water may, however, be sometimes found close even to a Saline or Chalybeate spring.

I must take occasion to remark, that the choice of a water is not always to be decided by the test of quantities according to an analysis. In some cases I have seen that a Saline water of one Spa, whether comparatively stronger or weaker, answered the purpose better with a particular individual than the Saline water of another Spa. This fact will readily be received by minds in any degree conversant with the variable principles of the human constitution in relation to the effects of remedies.\*

\* In these statements I have thought proper to rest upon the authority of Dr. Scudamore; at the same

Of the Chalybeate waters, the Cambray has had the reputation of superior strength. The No. 3, of the Old Well, is also very powerful. Fowler's Chalybeate is not strongly impregnated; Barrett's is still weaker. Thus Scudamore. There are other Chalybeate springs; one out of the High Street, on the north bank of the Chelt, is beautifully situated in a small grove.

The late Dr. Creaser, whose knowledge of analytical chemistry was more precise and operative than that of one medical man in a thousand, was of opinion that the contents and quantities of the Cheltenham waters are not yet accurately made out; and on this subject, had he lived, intended to give some new information to the public.

time I do not profess to feel implicit faith in these or any other existing analyses of the Cheltenham Waters. By comparing them with the former analyses, especially those of 1817, it will be made to appear that the properties of the Montpellier Waters have been wholly altered since that period. A much more satisfactory conviction, with persons of plain judgment, will be produced, that the supposed changes really lie in the fallability of analytical chemistry beyond the mere power of ascertaining more gross and obvious qualities by sensible differences of appearance. At all events, no two analyses of the waters agree !

*Population and prevalent Diseases.*

The number of houses is constantly multiplying; by the last census the population was rated at 15,022 (now about 20,000), and the number of houses at 2,849.

Though from the general system of the subdivision of houses into lodgings, the population of the inferior streets is dense and crowded, those uninterrupted and total ravages of pestilence, which befall many places, and set in with the work of human devastation, with a tenacity of every thing within reach, have never occurred. This is the more extraordinary, since the influx of settlers is great, whose reference of place and means in life have been precarious and fluctuating, and such as may not have provided them at any time with the most moderate comforts of existence. Hence, where they alight, there occurs that complete huddling of families into single dwellings, and that prevention of the comforts of equipment and food, which would be expected to favour the generation and inroad of diseases.

However, in a great town like Cheltenham, where, with so animating prospects, the means may be found, with some certainty, which afford a moderate and equal stream of succour for the

support of existence, it may be that diseases, in the above case, are warded off by the cheerfulness and hope which such a situation creates. At all events, it is otherwise in some neighbouring and more ancient places, where houses and streets, half in ruins and half whole, are strangely heaped together; where the precautions of cleanliness, though more required, are less exacted, and where the stationary or declining energies of public spirit favour the prevalence and hold of melancholy and gloom. The one situation is like a withered and aged tree, whose bark is covered and destroyed by devouring insects; the other is like a young and vigorous cedar, spreading out its branches for the protection and shelter of the wandering and uncovered.

Small-pox intrudes, but generally in an unconnected manner, without spread or danger. This may, perhaps, be owed to the activity with which vaccination has been kept up, both at the Dispensary and by private practitioners. Dr. Coley alone has vaccinated more than a thousand persons, without a case of subsequent failure. Cases, however, of small-pox after vaccination have occurred, though without fatal results, and, chiefly, mild as to character. A few years ago some cases of this kind happened, which led to a meeting between Dr. Jenner and

the resident practitioners. An association was also formed to persevere in rejecting the inoculation of small-pox, and pursuing vaccination to the extermination of it.

The chief character of the diseases here is inflammatory, probably through situation. Hence pleurisies and quinsies are of most frequent occurrence. The phthisical constitution is much benefited by residing at Cheltenham. Two cases of ladies, which came under my observation during the winter of 1824, as well as the result of many enquiries, confirm this assertion ; one of these individuals had previously resided in Devonshire.\*

Compared with the manufacturing districts of Gloucestershire, the exemption of the lower classes from diseases in the neighbourhood of Cheltenham is extraordinary. The former parts are occupied by a vast population engaged in cloth-working, who are exposed to all the causes of mental depression and physical degeneracy. Confinement, crowded situations in a tract of country by no means healthy, filth, poverty of

\* It appears to me that other pulmonary affections are benefited by residence at Cheltenham ; some recent observations tend to show that hœmoptoe (coughing up of blood from the lungs) is favourably influenced.

diet, and the effluvia of manufactories, there reduce the human animal to a humiliated and degraded standing among his fellow men, and expose him to untimely disruptions of the constitution, in the shape of diseases of the great organs and alimentary tube, and of the several forms of scrofula, especially the Derbyshire neck. The lawless mountaineer, the wild man who occupies a cleft in the rock, and who lives by cultivating the soil that surrounds him, and breathes the bold uncontaminated air of elevated regions, and retires to his solitary nook, fearless of wealth or power, with charter liberal as the winds, though often a formidable and suspicious neighbour, is nevertheless an object in which we may see the developed energy, commanding attitude, and unrestrained growth of nature. But it is otherwise with the squallid workman, degraded into dependence and disease, a broken spirited and stooped mercenary to the mechanical procurer of wealth.

### *Medical Institutions.*

Cheltenham possesses a Dispensary and Casualty Ward, supported by voluntary contributions. The chief founder was a friend, the pre-

sent Dr. Parry, of Bath, who suggested the first proposals and first code of regulations.

Till lately the Institution possessed few claims to notice, but what complaints of neglect and imperfect treatment excited; but the additional appointment of three physicians, one operative surgeon, and a surgeon-apothecary, with certain improvements of the regulations of their attendance, have given a prospect, at least, of more efficient service to the public.

It has lately been proposed to enlarge the Dispensary. Public convenience would be more consulted, and a greater number of minds fitly disciplined and prepared, if a second Institution was to be formed. The extension of the town in its N. N. E. and N. W. directions, as well as the increase of medical persons, seem to demand another. A most serviceable competition would likewise be excited by the existence of two, which cannot well be called forth by one.

From the younger medical men the public would thus be made to receive the benefit of plastic minds filled with the more improved views of modern science in surgery and medicine, and unsophisticated with habits and prejudices in practice long formed and stubbornly adhered to.

The numbers returned by the Committee of

the Old Dispensary, as relieved during the year 1824, amount to 2513, being an increase of 492 above the corresponding period of the preceding year.

There have been admitted into the Casualty Ward, during the same period, 26 patients, being an increase of 8 above that of the last year.

### *Medical Profession.*

The number of persons engaged in the different departments of this profession amount, at the present time, to forty-four individuals. These consist of thirteen physicians, twenty-two surgeons, surgeon-apothecaries, surgeon-druggists and apothecaries, and nine druggists. For these last three years the accessions of medical recruits have been at the rate of one per month!!!

When Psyche opened the fabled box of fate, she found that all save Hope had fled. We know not that it may be serviceable to others to represent the condition of a profession in which the multiplicity of followers must soon confound genius with ignorance, render talent "ridiculous excess," and reduce the majority of those who were born with the prospects of a better fate to a station below that of gentlemen, and an exist-

ence, if such it may be called, more hardly acquired than that of the meanest followers of trade. This picture will, it is to be feared, be too faithfully represented within the scope of our own observation.

In most situations, those who have had the happiness to be placed in a favourable position at a favourable period, those who hold the repute which time, connexions, and personal independence have fortified, will continue, like the victors in the Olympic games, to gather the laurels, and leave to their competitors the dust which is raised by their chariot wheels. But, except in casual instances of success, which seems to happen under any circumstances to some *few* individuals, the situation of him who shall now adventure on professional life without local connexions long formed and closely knit together, or private fortune, must be perilous indeed. His fate will resemble that of a cat in a bottle, doomed either to behold an abundance of occupation around him in which he is not destined to participate, or fall a prey, under the fallacious idea of employment, to that crew of insolvent persons, who rush from the *fauxbourgs* to every new comer, and leave him only when he discovers that he is the dupe of their designs and his own unguarded confidence. Added to

final disappointment, this miserable course of avocations is attended with all the circumstances of humiliation and disgust, and want of confidence, which the meanest and most dishonest employer feels privileged to exhibit. This representation, as being drawn from the observation of realities, is meant, like the fatal tablets of Horace, for a warning to the constant successions of young men who come and disappear, the deluded victims of outward appearances of splendor and magnificence.

It is a fact, that every new blue-bottle shop is filled with patients who have been in the habit of applying to the Dispensary. Of these not more than *five per cent.* ever pay an apothecary's bill.

In a profession thus crowded with adventurers, most must be short, or over, or wide, and "some few only jostle to the mistress fortune." In this condition of things, professional speculation will only be safe or respectable to men who already have competences. None, who can help it, will be content to chain merit to a vocation so full of self-denial, so exclusive in its objects of attention, and so apt to weary without the excitement of constant occupation, with no better prospect than of spending one half of existence in difficulty and obscurity, and

the other half in that wretched mediocrity of preferment which merely serves to satisfy the exigencies of life, and dull the senses without gratifying them. It is not even for talent to be buoyed up with more exalted expectations than these.

To him who doubts the truth of these remarks, we can only throw down the defiance of Ruysh, "*Veni et vidi!*" It may be enquired, why warnings thus striking have so little influence? It is curious, but nevertheless true, that more egoistical vanity seems to belong to the members of our now profitless profession than to any other; whether a happy trait or otherwise, every person in it, whatever may be his qualifications, seems to be infatuated with the idea that he is better fitted to succeed than his neighbour, and that no competition can obstruct the superior blaze of his merits, till he is informed of his mediocrity by the fate which awaits him.

It is very common to hear persons speak with the animation of casual observers of the distinguished success of some one individual who has surmounted competition, and whose star may have begun to rise above the clouds and shine with increasing lustre; hence arises a great source of temptation. In the imagination the picture of a career is drawn, in which the tran-

sition from endeavour to attainment, from the fame of talent to employment, was rapid and unimpeded. In truth, these angelic fancies are sufficiently illusive. All intermediate difficulties are left out of view wholly ; years of obscurity before good report is cordially greeted by the world, days of study in neglected and unbroken solitude, of anxiety for the means of an existence which is fitted to the place of the individual in society, and to the natural sensibility of his mind, and the suspicion and undervaluing with which emergent merit is ever received, are not at all taken into account. If, at last, some one win the race, what are the hazarded deductions from his gain ? Health broken in long years of probationary toil, in great part wearisome and disgusting, the temper soured in giving place perhaps to inferiority, in meeting ingratitude on one side, and finding silence on another where he deserved praise. After proofs too many times reiterated to be concealed or under-rated, the reward is bestowed when youth is no more, and the mind has lost the sense of enjoyment which belonged to earlier days. Such being the case, we can never be told of any success so great as to form a sufficient recompence, nor without pain in reflecting by what steps it was acquired.

Over and above these obstacles, which accord to the common principles of human nature, there are some others, which are local. Amid the system of venality and corruption which obtains in watering-places, and of whim and frivolity in the preferences of a great portion of the society which enter them, simple abstract merit is the last thing which is heeded. Success is often the result of minor agents stimulated by self-interest or other motives purely personal. Hence the favour of the public may often be anticipated for the meanest pretender before the most excellent wit by any dolt in the minor departments of the profession, whose public standing gives him the readiest access to strangers, and the most convenient opportunity of influence over their minds:

“Vilia miretur vulgus.”

It has been reported of a drug establishment in a certain great watering-place, that the *liberal proprietors* formerly asserted that no professional man could succeed in gaining a footing in the place whose views they thought proper to discourage. But though the number of those who were fools enough to become the tools of a party like this, were sufficiently great to give a foundation for the report, this despicable monopoly at last received a check in the resist-

ance of one strong-minded and indefatigable individual.

In a town where so many arrive whose local ignorance exposes them to injurious biases, or absolute imposition, a powerful and successful system of *touting* is not extraordinary.

It behoves the unconnected practitioner to protect himself against any confederate influence which may be organised to serve party views, and erect junta-like authorities. *Esprit de corps* associations, wherever formed, should be immediately struck down like the serpent of the mythology, with the club of an Hercules ; for it is certain that “men have often done hurt who had not abilities to do good ; that the weakest hand, if not timely disarmed, may stab a hero in his sleep ; that a worm, however small, may destroy a fleet in the acorn ; and that citadels which have defied armies have been blown up by rats.” Strangers will profit by these cautions at a time when the different degrees of merit should be duly weighed, and merit *alone*, and not venal recommendation, be made the object of patronage. The nuisance described has not only been attended with an undue influence over strangers in the choice of medical men, but to other innovations of quackery. The conversion of retailers of drugs into physicians and surgeons, with the

assumption of their respective designations, has been quite as common as the changes of grubs into black beetles. Even in a neighbouring city and watering-place, they have medico fish-sauce sellers, which is a step lower in the modern quackery and modern *raffism* of the profession.

These are the obstacles which may level and delay the most solid, and favour the lowest species of worth. He who shall succeed in breaking down such impediments requires no small fortitude, and a journeying through a path which none would have heart to re-tread. If done rapidly, with perseverance not to be thrust aside, no calumny that the tongue can utter, no debasement that malice can ascribe, no sinister method of accounting for success, which the wickedness of the human heart can vent, will be distributed otherwise than lavishly ; at the same time envy is the last motive which incites so much virtuous censoriousness !

The competition of show, aided by private means, is one other great obstacle. The man of the world, who can find his way to the heart through the stomach ; he that deems

“In quadrigis nos petimus benè vivere,”

and he who can flatter the foibles of the world, will smile at that individual whose merit is in

his mind, and whose laborious diligence is hid in the solitude of his home.\* He is acquainted with a nearer access to the idle and wealthy than science, and judges wisely that the ball, the rout, and the card-table, are haunts where the perihelium is sought with most success.

Also reputation, in the stations alluded to, is frequently the result of some circumstance or position, partly accident and partly design, which have what painters call *effect* with the ignorant, but which to those better informed afford no proof of talent. To scientific merit, to high reasoning, exquisite discrimination, to the ready adaptation of original processes of treatment, the common mind is wholly blind. The more we see, the stronger becomes the conviction that talent is of very little consequence, and that the majority of those who succeed in a profession,

\* The rise of genius and talent appears to be slower and more doubtful than that of mediocrity; even if we look back to the histories of men whose lives are *supposed* to have been one constant blaze of reputation and intellect, we find that their difficulties were greatest. The epistles of the divine Haller abound with the expression of dissatisfaction with the injustice of the world, in that melancholy, and even misanthropic sort, which, according to Mackenzie, is so peculiar to men of superior mental organization.

which only one in two hundred can practise with safe penetration, and one only in five hundred improve in any part, are not above mediocrity. The great mass of society look not beyond name for a recommendation, and trouble themselves but little with enquiring or estimating the different proportions of mind. But no society is so imperfect as to exclude altogether many generous and amiable persons, who deserve the acknowledgment which is due to superior and disinterested feeling. There are who will not always follow with the multitude; who profess to act by an individual according to his value, at the risk of being derided for want of fashion, or concurrence with party feeling.

It is sufficient to say, that Cheltenham is provided with talent more than adequate to the occasions which require it. In every such place there must needs be *some* well-disciplined minds long established in public confidence, to whom time and constant occupation have taught their duties. A man placed in a profitable situation will generally find sufficient ability to fill it. "Don't tell me," said Dr. Johnson to one who called in question the abilities of Erskine, "he who has driven a waggon from London to York every week of his life must know the way at last." If the medical practice of watering-places, as I

may judge from ten years' professional residence in them, be not such as to demand great powers or uncommon attainments, it will, nevertheless, call for a peculiar local experience, which, in their particular situations, gives the resident practitioners advantages that others elsewhere, however gifted, cannot possess.

To eminent persons in medicine every place of public resort is greatly indebted. The gratitude of the town of Cheltenham is well deserved by those whose reputation or connexion invites people of wealth to the place. No physician who settles in a watering-place derives his support from the inhabitants, but the inhabitants may derive support from the physician. Hence, the greater the reputation of an individual becomes, the deeper is the bond of obligation owed by the place in which he resides. It is fit that the people should be reminded of these relations.

### *General aspect of the Country.*

One part of Gloucestershire consists of a range of high and naked hills, called the Cots-wolds, whose same unsheltered surface forms a bleak region of continuous dips, divided into sections by stone walls, and here and there enlivened by the scanty interspersion of a land-

owner's seat, sheltered by the graceful screen of a beach wood, and distinguished from the surrounding lack of vegetation by the brighter green of artificial culture. This uninviting and somewhat desolate tract terminates in a bold outcrop of hill; below which the surface changes into a wide and spacious vale, the vale of Severn. The situation of Cheltenham, immediately under this long ridge, is very low, so that the town is rarely visible from afar on a level. This flat is rather sprinkled with insulated trees, and small groups, than any uniform or important masses of wood. About Birdlip, and towards Stroud and Cirencester, in sundry sequestered glens upon the skirts of the Cotswold, may be seen fine droops of wood, especially beech and larch. On this head nothing more needs to be added to the description in the first department.

### *Soil and Produce.*

Surface chiefly flat and damp, meadow ground. The fecundity of the land, especially between the hills, very great, and is said to increase towards the Severn. The whole vale of Gloucester is divided into dairy farms. Cows of the Gloucestershire breed, good milkers; in full milking, one cow will yield an average quantity

of two gallons twice a day ; cheese, the finest is called double Gloucester,\* made principally in the neighbourhood of Berkeley ; about Cheltenham they appear to fail altogether in making cheese, the herbage not being equally rich. Country well timbered, principally with elm and ash, and among the vallies with beech. The vegetation and climate about Cheltenham are said to be later than in Warwickshire or Worcestershire ; in some tracts very early. The soil is formed of sand, gravel, and blue clay, superimposed upon extensive oolitic ranges. The geological and mineralogical features of the neighbourhood are extremely interesting, and will be executed futurally for this work by separate contributors, skilled in each department of natural science.

*Latitude.*

Lat.  $51^{\circ} 51'$  N. long.  $2^{\circ} 5'$  W.; circumference of the parish ten miles ; hamlets Alstone, Westall, Naunton, Arle, and Sandford ; villages much

\* This cheese being bought up for London is seldom procured in the neighbourhood. The late Earl of Berkeley is said to have been obliged to get this cheese from the metropolis.

improved by modern habitations, the surplus architecture of Cheltenham.

*Description of the Town.*

Northern extremity of the High Street elegance and fashion ; the S. and S. W. form the Alsatia. The Olefian oil gas has made Cheltenham a splendid night-scene ; fifteen thousand pounds were raised in 1818, by shares of £50 each, for lighting the streets with gas.

*Market-day, Thursday.*

There is also a daily supply held at the new Market-house. Poultry, fish, butter, and vegetables, are dearer certainly at Cheltenham than at Gloucester; but the result of enquiry and experience is, that, with the exception of house-rent or lodging, living at Cheltenham is cheaper than at neighbouring country-towns distant from well-supplied markets. House-rent is only to be got rid of by the purchase or building of houses, which may always be had for less than their real value. It is cheaper to live in a house, by purchase, at the rate of four per cent. than to rent at ten per cent. or, if furnished, at fifteen or twenty per cent.

*Fairs.*

Four nuisances of this description are held here, for the sale of cattle, cheeses, &c.; the second Thursday in April, 5th day of August, second Thursday in September, third Thursday in December. Two *mops* for the hiring of servants are held on the Thursday preceding and following Michaelmas day.

These affairs are very unwisely suffered in the High Street and other streets. Booths, yockles, ballad-singers, show-keepers, fighters, country wenches, smock-venders, horses and other cattle, trotting and trampling in all directions, whatever zest they may communicate to the “still life” of a common country-town, are in no respect suited in character or kind to the *pavé* of Cheltenham. Towards the end of the day, when the irruption of “village youths” and “country lasses” has been attended with a tolerably free distribution of the “plenos cyathos,” some scenes have been witnessed by the author for which a thousand shoes and stockings ought to have been filled in an instant with water from the town pipes, and a certain wooden receptacle underwritten “Beware,” well supplied with arms and legs.

*Customs and Morals.*

Of any ancient customs, except the Morris-dancers, Benefit-Societies, Free-Masons, and Odd-Fellows, we are not aware. Habits of life in Cheltenham are generally convivial. In this matter the people are wise ; it were better to die laughing with Democritus, than to perish of the spleen with Heraclitus. The consistent and genuine English character will endure longer in esteem than a particular character, so much assumed in our times, either for self-interest or from mental delusion. Swift, with his usual strong sense, says : “ It is to be understood, that in the language of the *spirits*, *cant* and *droning* supply the place of *sense* and *reason* in the language of men ; because, in spiritual harangues, the disposition of the words according to the art of grammar, hath not the least use, but the skill and influence wholly lie in the choice and cadence of the syllables, even as a discreet composer, who is setting a song, changes the word and order so often, that he is forced to make it nonsense before he can make it music. For this reason it has been held by some, that the art of canting is ever in the *greatest perfection* when encouraged by ignorance ; which is

thought to be enigmatically meant by Plutarch, when he tells us, that the best musical instruments were made from the bones of an ass. And the profounder critics upon that passage are of opinion, the word in its genuine signification means no other than a jaw-bone; though some rather think it to have been the *os sacrum*."

Where pleasurable habits, diversified amusements, successive public spectacles, and general luxury exist, it must be expected that local habits should rather be superficial and gay, than permanent and grave. Among all classes idleness seems to be more copied than vice. Cheltenham has not a single *bagnio*; but viewing certain evils as inevitable in human society, that policy has been called in question which increases the *publicity* of vicious persons and vicious displays. It were well, however, could human reason subdue human passion. The increase of scrofula, mania, and phthisis has been traced, with great accuracy, by Professor Alison, to the influence of the *fashionable* diseases, both in reducing the original powers of the constitution of individuals, and propagating the degeneracy to their offspring. In this respect human folly and frailty have increased. Some few years since the streets of Edinburgh scarcely presented a single female; they are now proportionately

as numerous as in London. In many villages of Scotland (a moral country,) the arrival of French prisoners naturalized the extremes of vice, where vice was before unknown. Did men between eighteen and twenty-five feel as afterwards, injured constitutions and women of the town would be infinitely less numerous. However “the brain may devise laws for the blood, but a hot temper leaps over a cold decree; such a *hare* is madness through *youth*, to skip over the meshes of *good council*, the *cripple*”

### *Coal..*

Coal is supplied principally from the great coal basin of the Forest of Dean. It burns slower than the northern coal, and leaves a residuum of red earth and clay. Some part of the supply is derived from Shropshire and Staffordshire.

Dr. Parry says: “I once published in the Cheltenham Chronicle a sort of an account of the geological features of the neighbourhood, chiefly with reference to the expectation of finding coal. It is certainly an interesting neighbourhood, as having the blue marl country incumbent upon granite, or, rather, as having the Malvern granite bursting through the marl and lias deposits. My paper contained some facts, if I am not mistaken, as to the strata through

which the attempt for coal has been made. It is, however, very doubtful whether coal would be found, though the correspondence with the Bath coal district is great. Coal, though found in these strata, is evidently connected with basins, which may or may not exist in particular districts\*."

### *Fish.*

Chiefly procured from London, except Severn salmon, which is excellent; elvers, or white thread-like worms, carried about the streets boiled, and generally there devoured from the hand by the purchasers; shad, of which the largest are best and freest of bones, and the smaller occupy a week to prevent the luxury of swallowing pins and needles; and lampreys, by which Henry II. was choked. The first is said to be peculiar to the county, and to be the spawn of the third; the second to be good only from the Severn.

### *Ale.*

Gloucestershire ale is hard and strong, but very genuine. The town is generally supplied with brewers' beer.

\* Private letter, March 1825.

*Amusements.*

The amusements of modern Watering-places are balls, routs, theatres, library-lounges, shopping, and promenading. Cheltenham has been much famed as a place of residence for single men, excess of dress, and an endless rage for walking. The diurnal of a *regular* would run thus:—From seven to nine, the Wells, watters, and music, at least one hour's expatiation; ten to eleven, breakfast, medical consultations, and liver diseases; eleven to one, auctions at the Rooms, books, Colebrook-Dale ware, paintings, ladies' apparel, or jewellery for sale; one to three, billiard-rooms or libraries; three to five, “tooling” nymphs of fashion “over the stones,” or “a drag,” from a Stanhope to a four-in-hand, up and down the High Street; six, dinner; eight to nine the theatre, or *soirées* with music, conversation, or fire-works at Weller's, Bettison's, or Williams', *alias* the Wells and full dress; ten, a rout, a singing lady at a corner of a room, an array of standing or seated listeners; two or three card-tables, tea and coffee, perhaps quadrilles; silence broken by the footman bawling at the door the names of every party as they arrive; flirting and ogling; wine, cakes, ices, confec-

tionary, &c. and off! On such occasions drawing-rooms are sometimes so overflowed that the superfluities are deposited on the staircases. Otherwise walking, and segars; or the Rooms and "fascinating games," *e. g.* hazard, *l'ecarte*, blind-hookey, &c. followed by emptied pockets, distracted minds, morning horrors, agitated nerves, loosened principles, profligate society, and increasing incapacity of resisting a ruinous infatuation. In winter, the red-coated train of the Berkeley Hunt, with a pack of fox-hounds kept by Colonel Berkeley, throw off in the neighbourhood of Cheltenham. From this cause the place has been greatly indebted to that gentleman in the winter season for its company: the hunting season terminates with the cavalcade of the hunt, which drives into Cheltenham four-in-hand upon stage-coaches, in the appropriate costume, and a subsequent ball is given with great magnificence at the Theatre.

Also winter balls, parties, routs, and harrier hunting.

The Duke of Beaufort's fox-hounds sometimes hunt in the neighbourhood. The Beaufort costume is green; the Berkeley scarlet, mounted with a black velvet collar and a fox thereon worked in silver, the lining yellow. The wooded dells and crofts, the swells, dips, and small val-

leys, render the hunting about Cheltenham very pleasant.

Trout fishing may be obtained at Frog-Mill and some other places in the neighbourhood. The Chelt is a mere huddling brook, or rivulet, which descends from the throat of the hills, and goes along in meanness and obscurity, with little variation of lines, and unmarked by the growth of trees upon the banks. Some silver-tongued Clytumnus, or romantic Sorgue, would have been here a glorious lounge all a summer's day ; but, save affording a few trout to the worm or salmon paste fisher, the Chelt has no other kind of interest.

### *Charities.*

It is pleasing to record that sundry spots, if not illumined by the sunshine, are “green with the verdure of humanity.” It is a most grateful acknowledgment of local benevolence, that so many enter with so great interest into the most latent refuges of want. An active and strictly practical portion of this spirit has always been evinced and administered by the resident ladies.

Charity, it is said, never comes so well as from

the hands of woman; and the traveller Lethbridge affirms, that in his most perilous wanderings, he ever found a ministering friend in a female.

In the several instances of complete wreck which assail so many in a community, the resources of which are chiefly speculative, the subscriptions are always liberal. Of habitual alms-givers there is a paucity according to principle and good sense; hence there results a scanty ingress of street-beggars.

The benevolent public charities are the Cheltenham Cobourg Society, formed by the Rev. C. Jervis, Nov. 19, 1817, the day after the funeral of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, for the relief of indigent married women, and the loan of linen during their confinement. This excellent charity is supported by annual subscriptions. According to our own observations its duties are capitally administered: Storekeeper, Mrs. Cull, No. 138, High Street. 2dly, A Benevolent Institution to relieve proper objects of compassion, to the prevention of street begging, and petitioning. 3dly, A new Poor-House, erected in 1809, whose inmates are employed in heading pins and mopsticks.

*Public Education.*

The charities for instruction consist of a Free-School, founded in 1754, by Richard Pates, Esq. Recorder of Gloucester, to which is annexed an Hospital for the reception and maintenance of six persons. The school is liberally endowed. It contributes towards the maintenance of eight scholars at Pembroke College, Oxford, two of whom are to be elected from this school. Another school endowed by Mr. Townsend, for the education of the children of poor inhabitants, also, exists. There is a School of Industry, supported by subscriptions, and for the education of Female under Servants, at which twenty-four are clothed and sixteen boarded.

The Cheltenham National School, on the system of Dr. Bell, was founded in Aug. 1816. Here four hundred boys and girls are educated. There are other sectarian schools.

*Police.*

A system of good order and peace appears to be preserved without any extraordinary exertions. A solitary nymph from the purlieus of the town, or a string of Bacchanalians, *alias* go-

vernors, serpentine homewards with an *opera-buffa* clamour, in no place more frequently break the silence of the night; but such invasions of repose form no ground for reproach, since prevention is impracticable.

Upon the whole much credit is due to the police, which is sufficiently vigilant and ubiquitarian. Tacitus mentions the disturbance caused by the assemblings of plebeians in Rome at the corners of streets, but this nuisance, which is so much in operation in many places, especially Brighton and Worthing, occurs not in Cheltenham.

### *Science and Literature.*

Cheltenham possesses no literary institutions; but small pretensions to science and literature are found in places where the inhabitants are chiefly intent upon the speculations of the day, and in pursuits the sameness and character of which are peculiarly unfavourable to any abstract subject of mind. Whatever leisure the least laborious may possess is generally bestowed upon such modes of dissipation as become pre-eminent and habitual, where none resort but for idleness and pleasure. In such places the most meritorious efforts in science and literature can make only a vague and general impression, or

pass away as matters foreign to the interests or habits of the surrounding circle. In the casual society, whilst the superficial and more striking accomplishments are strictly heeded, as necessary to the reputation of elegance, or as means of acceptance into circles, learning and science, as they conduce not to these aims, are rejected, and scarcely comprehended. Hence it has rarely or never occurred, that a great intelligence has been produced in these situations. Indeed, to persevere in objects so contrary to the aptitudes of the local society, would require a hardihood and spirit of growth, like that of trees, which strike root and flourish even on barren rocks. Indeed the terms "talent or genius" seem to be applied to qualities very different from those which would be so called in the metropolis. They consist in some shewy spirit of invention or ingenuity, too flimsy to be ascribed to either.

Madame de Staél says, "While elegance consists in the superfluous abundance of objects of external luxury, it seems as if this same elegance interdicted all luxury in the mind, all exaltation of sentiments, in short, all that does not immediately tend to improve the prosperity of worldly affairs. Modern selfishness has found out the art of praising reserve and moderation

in all things, so as to mask itself under the semblance of wisdom ; and it was only at length perceived that when such opinions might annihilate genius, generosity, love, and religion, what could it leave that is worth the pain of living?"

For the very nutriment of mental superiority, to a certain extent, it should be thrown back upon its own resources. It must forego the pursuits and cares of artificial life, and spend one half of daily existence within the enchanted cave of introverted thought. The feelings of its own purpose, and habits of inward sequestration, must triumph not only over self-propensities, but the temptation of example, and the rebukes of contrary dispositions.

It might be erroneous to deny to Cheltenham the possession of latent genius, but the wand is not yet found whose touch can command and call it forth ; the lightning is yet embosomed in a cloud ; there is no claim whatsoever to intellectual character or professional philosophy.

In the department of poetry much has been done by the talent of the Editor of the Cheltenham Chronicle towards cultivating the public taste.

*Longevity.*

The proportion of deaths to any given amount of population accords to the situation of countries and the number of inhabitants ; therefore fewer persons die annually out of the same number in mountainous and thinly-peopled countries, than in lower situations closely inhabited.\* Dr. Jameson took the ages of 864 persons, as recorded in 1807, on the tombstones of the Old Church-yard. More than half the number are above sixty ; fifteen, that is one in fifty-seven, either ninety or upwards ; of these last, nine were women, which favours the opinion that females live longer than males, although few of them arrive at the utmost extent of human duration. The tombstones of the Anabaptist Chapel and Prestbury church-yard, afford a similar result. At the latter three centenarians are found.† It is justly observed by Dr. Jameson, that climate alone will not account for so great extent of life ; much is to be ascribed to employments, viz. husbandry, day-labour, building, gardening, with few sedentary, and no manufacturing occu-

\* See table in Young's Essay on Midl. Lit.

† Thus Dr. Jameson.

pations, which last are the bane of human health, and a disgust to all who dwell near them. This gift of length of years seems to go down as an inheritance in particular families.

### *Baths.*

As among the ancients,\* and the modern Russians, it is desirable that public baths were instituted in this country. According to Dr. Hunter, general baths have been erected at Leeds. The wisdom of the country travels north! At Cheltenham there are the Cambray baths, cold, tepid, and hot, with a cold shower bath attached to each. Four built with stone, with smooth stone bottoms, are large enough to swim in; they are lighted and ventilated from the top, and the water, preserved constantly at the height of four feet and a half, flows continually through them by means of pipes and waste pipes. The hot baths are heated by steam.

During this last spring of 1825, baths have been opened in the Regent Gardens, by Mr. Stokes Heynes, on the most improved plans.

\* Dr. Jameson informs us that the Romans spent so much time in the baths, "that they had hardly leisure to eat one meal a day!" *So much for classical quizzing.*

The establishment is elegant and spacious ; there are tepid, warm, cold, vapour, sulphur, and shower baths, also shampooing apparatus, stretching racks, &c.

*The Arts.*

Mr. Millet and Mr. Dinsdale have acquired just celebrity, the one in miniature and historical painting, the other in landscape. The latter has or had an exhibition in North Street. The public encouragement of the arts here is, however, mean. Mr. Theweneti has shown, in an original style of miniature painting resembling the effect of oil colours, and in an exquisite finish, talent which, on an happier field, would be rewarded with full employment and certain competency. Mr. Gubbens has put forth some fair specimens of the brilliancy, high colouring, and effect of the English school in portrait painting ; in these the fine relief produced by light back grounds, and the softness created by the rejection of minutiæ, are contrasted with the dark grounds and strong lines of the old school. In the season Gahagan exhibits his models and casts, and numerous and famous paintings are brought for public exhibition.

*Inhabitants.*

Except among the resident gentry, such aboriginal possessors of land as, like the man in the Tales of a Traveller, have changed their estates from poverty to sudden wealth by revolutions in the value of property, and the higher orders of commercial men, most watering-places present a striking contrast of apparent splendor and actual impecuniosity. In these places, where much is adventured without capital, and carried on upon a system of credit and accommodation, dependence rests chiefly upon speculative receipts, and consequently failures and fluctuations in trade are common. Compared with the outward shew of magnificence, this structure of society reminds one of the tales of houses, trees, and people in the Spectator, which appeared solid and real at a distance, but vanished at approach. Hereby is implied no disrespect to the high and reputable classes of commercial people in watering-places, who are often the most liberal and reflecting part of society.

A considerable portion of the inhabitants of Cheltenham, especially the women, are solely occupied in letting lodgings. This mode of

procuring an existence too often gives rise to a system of petty plunder and exaction, which are disgraceful to the persons who practise it, and in the end injurious to the place. Previous to the taking of lodgings by strangers, it would be a prudent step if strict inquiry was made, or references of character demanded, in relation to the individuals by whom they are kept, written contracts invariably entered into, and the household economy conducted entirely by themselves or confidential servants. Among his own connexions the writer has been repeatedly appealed to concerning the little disgusting subjection, odious pertness, and mercenary treatment, which they had found among many persons dependent on lodging letting. As he does not feel disposed to wink at extortion in any shape, he is quite reckless concerning any unpopular sentiments which may betide him on the score of these expressions. The respectable portion of the inhabitants are exempt from this blame as respects honesty and civility, but it would be better for the place if a general reduction of rents were to ensue. The inhabited house duty, which is unjustly assessed in this town, appears to keep them up. In all places of general resort it must be expected that certain classes of society admit considerable diversity; one species

is to be found full of the prowling activity of its particular namesake, the shark. This variety is remarkable for the extraordinary care with which it shuns any regular industry and labour, and for the watchfulness with which, like the ourang-outang awaiting the opening of an oyster, it designs upon the pockets of others. It is formed mostly of those whose means of life have rested upon the shifts and schemes of the day, or of such as have suffered in trade, without future means of re-establishment; of others who are ready to decline occupation with the apology of the shepherd's boy, "Lord, sir! you would not ask me if you knew how lazy I am;" and of mechanics, with whom the *otium cum dignitate* consists in low debauchery. The cardinal sins which I have observed among the mechanics and working classes of this town, are laziness and dissipation, an opinion confirmed by those to whom I have communicated it.

### *Climate.*

Diversity of climate in different situations has been ascribed to the natural division of the country into hill and vale. The elevation of the Cotswolds is about 340 yards above the bed

of the Severn ; of Cleeve Hill about 1,022 feet \* above the level of the sea, and 600 feet above that of the vale. The climate of the hills is colder by two degrees of latitude than that of the valley ; hence, in winter, they are disagreeable and windy. They shelter the town from the N. E. and E. winds, which "prevail all the spring, and after the autumnal equinox." The valley being open only to the W. and S. W., the West wind, deprived of its heat in passing the Welsh mountains (the western boundaries), blows cold, and produces a sensation nearly equal to that of the E. wind, more especially when veering N. of W. This funnel-shape of the valley, with a large river in the centre, ventilates the atmosphere, and contributes largely to the purity and salubrity of the climate. The celebrated Scotch surgeon, Benjamin Bell, on account of the meliorated climate of Cheltenham, produced by these peculiarities of relative situation, was wont to send phthisical patients to Cheltenham. He conceived that the climate was as mild as that on the coast of Devonshire, and less frequently disturbed by boisterous weather. The inhabitants are little subject to winter coughs.†

As to climate in phthisis, the main points are

\* Col. Mudge.

† Thus Dr. Jameson.

steady and regular temperature, and greater gravity of the atmosphere. Phthisical patients generally improve in summer and winter, when the weather is least variable, and die either in spring or autumn. My own opinions coincide with the interesting conclusions of Mr. Mansford, that low and damp situations under hills are most propitious to this class of invalids. It is certain that consumptions are rare in agueish situations. The most unfavourable situations for the phthisical are mountainous parts and high lands, where the air is keen and strong; otherwise such situations are the most healthy. The custom of sending patients to Madeira, the south of France, and Beddoe's favourite place, Clifton, to smell the breath of cows and gather dandelions, is a farce perpetuated by prejudice and ignorance.\*

Dr. Ingenuouz, and others, have stated that the air about the course of rivers is purest; as regards the influence of the climate of Cheltenham on the phthisical constitution, I have stated elsewhere all that I know according to experience.

As to temperature, Cheltenham has been reported to be very cold in winter, and very hot

\* See Dr. Young's *Essay on Literature, and work on Phthisis, Mansford, &c.*

in summer. In the winter the weather is rather temperate and moist than cold; in the summer it is unquestionably hot from reflected heat, the houses being white. Dr. Jameson says, that in July, 1808, an intensely hot month, the thermometer in Cheltenham rose not above 86°, whereas in many other towns, on the same days, it exceeded 90°, and in London, at the house of the Royal Society, stood as high as 93½°. From unquestionable information, this same authority decides, "that London is near a degree and a half warmer than Cheltenham both in winter and summer, excepting a few days in June and July, which are hotter in the middle of the day at Cheltenham than at London." In the years 1807-8 the range of the thermometer stood thus:

	1807.	1808.	1808.	1808.	1808.	1808.
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	June.	July.	Aug.
Monthly Mean. for Cheltenham	36.3°	37.2°	37.8°	60.°	66.2°	63.8°
Ditto for London	37.9	38.8	38.3	61.	68.3	65.5

During this summer, that is to say, in the month of July, 1825, the temperature of the atmosphere varied from 80° to 93.5° in the shade. In consequence the foliage and grass prematurely turned sere, and the leaves dropped from the boughs as in autumn. The fruit ripened so early as to be tasteless and small, and the corn

followed immediately upon the grass harvest. In the bottoms of Gloucestershire the thermometer rose higher than here; on the southern coast, and at the lakes, the temperature was also at an equal or higher degree. My belief is, that the warmest situations are the most healthy for those whose secretion of bile is deficient, and power of the stomach feeble. In this country, at all events, the functions are more regular, the spirits more cheerful, and the skin more active in hot weather. Hence Cheltenham will ever suit those who come from the East and West Indies. It happens well that in the hottest weather one side of the High Street is always in shadow.

The annual amount of rain which falls is greater at Cheltenham than in London. As to such other circumstances as affect the climate of place, there being no marsh lands, there can be little evaporation or foggy weather. A foolish prejudice exists that low situations must needs be marshy and unhealthy, from its not being taken into account that low lands *with falls* are as salutary as any.

By means of the following metereological tables,\* taken from Sept. 1824 to August 1825, in a most accurate manner, I have been enabled

\* For these I am indebted to Mr. Moss, chemist, a man of an ingenious and scientific mind.

to examine critically the correctness of Dr. Jameson's very interesting and important statements concerning the climate of Cheltenham. The thermometer was suspended about five feet from the ground in a N. E. aspect; the register was made at eight o'clock A. M.; the barometer, winds, and weather were registered at eight o'clock A. M. and eight P. M.\*

THERMOMETER.					BAROMETER.			
Years.	Month- ly Max- imum.	Mini- mum.	Medi- um.	Range.	Maxi- mum.	Mini- mum.	Medi- um.	Range.
1824.								
Sept.	81°	38°	59.5°	43°	29.95°	29.12°	29.53°	83°
Oct.	64	32	48	32	29.87	28.76	22.31	1.11
Nov.	57	32	44.5	25	29.88	28.15	29.01	1.73
Dec.	53	28	40.5	25	30.13	28.75	29.44	1.38
1825.								
Jan.	54.5	31	42.75	23.5	30.52	29.06	29.79	1.46
Feb.	51.5	28	39.75	23.5	30.29	29.35	29.87	0.94
March	59	30.0	44.5	29.0	30.32	28.96	29.64	1.36
April	63.5	35.0	49.25	28.5	30.18	29.12	29.65	1.06
May	72.5	42	56.75	31.5	30.05	29.35	29.70	0.70
June	78.5	46	59.25	38.5	30.04	29.16	29.60	0.88
July	93.5	51.5	72.5	42.0	30	29.53	29.75	00.47
Aug	85.0	52.5	68.75	32.5	30.01	29.01	29.52	1.02

\* Before me is a thermometrical scale, after Captain Ross's plan, which exhibits at once the comparative ranges of the years 1821, 2, 4, and 5. Except in the extreme of July, 1825 (and I may say also of cold in Jan. 1823), the general equality of our climate is thus made to appear. One year with another the variation of the monthly means seldom exceeds 3° to 5°. Tables of the years 1821-2 will be annexed.

## WINDS.

Months.	N.	N. E.	N. W.	E.	S.	S. E.	S. W.	W.	Nay o. D. s.
	No. of Days.	No. of Days.	No. of Days.	No. of Days.	No. of Days.	No. of Days.	No. of Days.	No. of Days.	
Sept.	7	—	—	—	8	6	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	$\frac{1}{2}$
October	2	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	—	2	$9\frac{1}{2}$	$9\frac{1}{2}$	
Nov.	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$7\frac{1}{2}$	2	10	9
Dec.	$\frac{1}{2}$	3	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	5	—	$19\frac{1}{2}$	$6\frac{1}{2}$
January	$3\frac{1}{2}$	—	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	2	8	$9\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$
February	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	5	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$6\frac{1}{2}$	6	4
March	3	—	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$9\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$
April	6	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$6\frac{1}{2}$	1	$2\frac{1}{2}$	—	$9\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$
May	2	—	—	$2\frac{1}{2}$	4	4	2	12	3
June	2	$7\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	$5\frac{1}{2}$	4	$2\frac{1}{2}$
July	$3\frac{1}{2}$	1	—	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	10	$2\frac{1}{2}$
August	—	$20\frac{1}{2}$	20	39	38	54	107 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	$44\frac{1}{2}$
	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

This table sets forth the number of days in every month, and the whole number of days in twelve months during which each wind blew.

months; and, including the N. W. point, five months and a half; Dr. Jameson says eight months; but, on this head, I conceive he may be in error, for the year in which the above tables were taken was extremely mild, when they would be expected to prevail. However, in this respect seasons differ very considerably; and in the years 1807-8 of Dr. Jameson's tables, westerly winds appear to have been very prevalent. Dr. Jameson has included the several westerly points under the general head of W., which, both as respects his own views of the climate as influenced by the W. wind alone, and the known different influences of each of the westerly points, was careless and creative of confusion. Of these the most prevalent by nearly half is the S. W.; it blows least in March and April, when the N. and N. E. and S. E. winds chiefly prevail, and most from June to February.

The S. E. prevails from February to October, and for the greatest number of days from February to June; apparently in consequence of the prevalence of easterly winds at this period.

The W. and S. W. winds appear to prevail most from October to February; hardly any other winds blew during the October and November of 1824, a period of hard rain and extreme hurricanes. These circumstances tend

to confirm the observations of Dr. Jameson respecting the influence of the S. W. in producing “most of the annual rain, gales of wind, and thunder storms of this kingdom.” This author speaks of the West wind as “being generally clear and dry, and bringing with it the finest balmy weather of Great Britain;” and again, on account of the peculiar form of the valley, described by him as cited above, and the previous passage of the W. and S. W. winds over the Welsh hills before they enter this great geographical funnel, the W. wind “assumes a peculiar cold character at Cheltenham, which in most other places is warmer, and blows in gentle zephyrs, and produces a sensation of cold nearly equal to that of the E. wind. This wind *is therefore disagreeable in winter*, more especially when veering N. of W.; but *as westerly winds prevail most in the hottest season of the year*, they are, upon the whole, pleasant and salutary breezes.”

Altogether, this tissue of contradictory statements is an amusing illustration of the manner in which a man will nurse his hobby. Dr. Jameson, perhaps, conceiving that the observations of others would not bear out his very ingenious theory to the fullest extent of the influence of the Welsh hills and the valley upon the

West winds, he therefore says that “they prevail most in the hottest season of the year,” an assertion, by-the-bye, not borne out by his own tables, at least as far as the jumbling together of three several winds, according to his own account very different in their qualities, does not confuse every attempt to draw an inference from them ; agreeably to these they blow pretty equally summer and winter.

By accurate deductions from the tables which are here given, it is ascertained that the W., and even S. W., are not summer winds ; and as in respect to the former, so it holds good of the latter, that the thermometer in the vernal months is highest, and invariably rises, when the wind sets in these quarters, unless, as is common, it happens to be shifting into several points within a few hours ; in that case the mercury rises and sinks several degrees, and *vice versâ*, in a short compass of time.

The thermometer throughout is lowest at S. E., N., and N. W. Through all the winter months of 1824 the weather was coldest at N. and S. E. These latter winds are apt to blow in May, and produce great cold, but it is singular that they concur with the hottest weather in the summer months. On July 17th, 18th, and *seq.* 1825, the hottest days of the year (how different in 1824,

when in the same month the thermometer stood at  $73.5^{\circ}$  *high*, and  $51.5^{\circ}$  *low*, barometer  $30.14^{\circ}$ ,  $29.43^{\circ}$ ), the wind was at E. and N. E.!

The fact is, that in winter the N. and North-easterly winds are refrigerated from blowing over "regions of thick-ribbed ice," and therefore are especially keen in years of greatest frigidity at the North Pole.\* But in the summer months the Borean climates are extremely warm; hence, on the same principles, may be explained the heat concurrent with these winds about the dog-days.

To make one or two more observations concerning the westerly winds, if it did not happen that the prevalence of the W. and S. W. winds during the summer months was by no means the most usual event, even then the idea that they brought cold, which is deduced from their passage over the South Cambrian mountains, viz. the Bloreng, Skyrred Vaux, and Hatterells, would hardly bear investigation. In winter the hills of South Wales may wear, like Soracte's top, an evanescent cap of snow, but not so durably or often, as to chill the W. wind which blows over them from the Atlantic. I can readily imagine

\* See Robertson on Climate, History of America, and Edinburgh Review on the Polar Regions.

that the W. and S. W. reverberating from the hills to the N. and N. E. of Cheltenham, would, from the peculiar form of the valley, form currents, and to a certain extent produce more cold sensations than elsewhere; indeed it must be admitted that the greatest *diurnal* range of the thermometer often accompanies the West wind, though it fall lower at other points. But if the preceding circumstances at S. W.\* be admitted to influence it, the same reasoning may hold good of the effect of the Cotswold range upon the E. and N.E. winds. Was the West wind rendered cold and dry, from blowing over a range of mountains, it would have less humidity and more weight and density from the high degree of condensation of the combined vapour. Now *dry cold air being a bad conductor of calorie*, it would

\* In Nov. 1824, from 3d to 6th, wind W.  $57^{\circ}$  high to  $45^{\circ}$  low, and  $45^{\circ}$  h. to  $32^{\circ}$  l. (lowest of the month); Nov. 10th and 11th,  $57^{\circ}$  h. to  $52^{\circ}$  l. and  $55.5^{\circ}$  h. to  $43.5^{\circ}$  l. Now we find the tube with a S. W. wind as low as  $49.5^{\circ}$  h. and  $42.5^{\circ}$  l. With the exception of one variation, the thermometer is highest this month at West, and coldest at S. W., S. E., and E. The same observation holds good in Dec. In Jan. 1825 the thermometer is at  $53^{\circ}$  h.  $40^{\circ}$  l. W., and as low as  $31^{\circ}$  S. W. and only three days so high as  $51^{\circ}$  S. W. and E. In Feb. both higher and lower at S. E. and S. W.

tend to produce cold to the human body only when in a state of rapid motion and by contact. But in one point of view my positions may lie open to some degree of fallacy, inasmuch as greater sensations of cold may be produced by air which is *loaded with moisture* and in *motion*, *even at an inferior temperature*, than by air in the state above described. That the W. wind is subject to considerable motion is evinced, upon well known principles, by the fickle ranges of the thermometer which accompany it. In this case, for the want of regular consent betwixt the temperature and hygrometrical saturation of the air, a great diversity in the density and elasticity of the atmosphere must needs ensue, and probably much diversity of effect on the human frame. To settle the point at issue it would be requisite to ascertain the hygrometrical and barometrical relations of this wind.

Dr. Jameson conceived that a part of Cheltenham called Marybone Park, above the Montpelier property, was the most healthy, because agreeably to his ingenious ideas on this subject, it possessed that air which came up freshest from the sea. I do not know how far this is true, but the narrow valleys called the bottoms, which are traversed by the same air, produce scrofulous and unhealthy people. This, how-

ever, may be owed to selenitish waters and blind hollows, for certainly the *hygeine* of these *vallies* and the *vale* of Chelt, differ remarkably (See p. 208). From this part the smoke of the town is carried towards Prestbury and the N. E. extremity. The former, as lying low, and not having falls, appears, according to facts, to retain epidemics longer, and with greater severity, than the immediate site of Cheltenham.

Upon the subject of the weather, and physical influences wrought by the other winds, the North blows so few days that much cannot be ascribed to it. Perhaps, as Dr. Jameson observes, "it braces and invigorates the human system." According to our own deductions it generally brings clouded and foggy weather.

Dr. Jameson states very correctly, that the N. E. wind prevails all the spring (March, April, May, and June), and after the autumnal equinox (September and October). With this wind the weather is pretty generally fine and dry, but, like the E. and N. W. it brings the greatest cold. The same author has it, that it causes the acute distempers common to us islanders at certain seasons, inflammations, rheumatism, and catarrhs. The E. wind is a great horror, and as Dr. Jameson states, it blows most, though at no time a frequent wind, from March to June, and about

the autumn. In July and August it occurs with milder features. The S. E. prevails chiefly from February to May, and brings clouded, foggy, and very cold weather. The “foggy South puffing wind and rain” blows about five weeks (as stated by Dr. Jameson), nearly the same number of days in every month, and rather most in autumn. Its general medium of warmth is rather below that of the S. W. Dr. Jameson ascribes to the S. W. both “the rains, winds, and thunderstorms of this kingdom;” likewise “heat and moisture, which destroy the density and healthy elasticity of the atmosphere;” but these effects are chiefly to be imputed to the fixed variability of our climate. From the predominance of this wind in every season we have with it all varieties, but, upon the whole, more fine and temperate weather than cold and wet; it is favourable to human health.

Upon this interesting subject of the Hygeine of Cheltenham we have bestowed some pains; more perfect it might have been, for matured opinions in matters like these require time. The ancients, especially Hippocrates, recommended these subjects as very serious studies. By means of this kind of knowledge, on entering a country, they made the most brilliant inductions;

for example, in the beautiful application of it in favour of the Agrigentines by Empedocles.

### *Geology.*

The following article, on the geology of the neighbourhood, with reference to the discovery of coal, was published by Dr. C. Parry, in the **Cheltenham Chronicle**, in 1814. Through the kind communication of Mr. Henney, we have been enabled to recover it. Some additions in accord with the modern views of Buckland and others are in progress (see p. 228).

“ Two reasons offer themselves why it may fairly be presumed that Coal exists in this neighbourhood. One of these proceeds from a knowledge of the fact, that a *general* uniformity prevails throughout almost all the habitable globe, in the order and succession of strata, and in the relative extent of those strata. The *second* is derived from an observation of the strata which surround us, and the discovery of certain constituents of these strata, which peculiarly indicate the presence of this useful article.

“ Leckhampton Hill, which overhangs this rich and beautiful valley on the S. and S. E. side, is a mass of inferior oolite or bastard free-stone, of which, in different parts of the Hill, the quality varies considerably ; so that while in *one* spot it has all the inequalities and imperfections of this rock, in another it almost equals

the superior oolite of Bath, and certainly that inferior oolite which is so much praised and valued at Painswick ; and in a third situation it is, from its compactness and hardness, capable of receiving a polish which renders it convertible to any of the uses of marble.

“ The thickness of the stratum of *Bastard Free-stone*. has, in general, been calculated at 40 feet, though in this neighbourhood it is much more ; and the bed of calcareous sand on which it rests, is estimated at from 40 to 80 feet, or more. As we descend the hill we observe the copious and transparent springs which gush out from beneath the inferior oolite, and in the calcareous sand, which, wherever it occurs, supplies us in the vale with the same set of springs. Here, too, the thick bed of blue marl and clay is first observable, in which, near Bath, the second set of springs arises ; and which, in the neighbourhood of Cheltenham, gives origin to the various Saline Waters. This bed of blue marl has generally been found to contain two substances, of which one is called Yeovil marble, the other marl-stone ; at Cheltenham it contains the several ingredients which give their peculiar character to the water ; the various well-known Salts, sulphur and its composites selenite and pyrites, as well as large masses of *iron stone*, which has not been affected by the action of the sulphureous constituents, vestiges of coal, both wood coal and argillaceous shale called coal shale, have also been detected occasionally in this stratum. The extraneous fossils peculiar to this stratum are found abundantly in it : Such are the *ostræa gibba* (or *pecten*), the ammonites, and belemnites. Mr. Townsend has set down the thick-

ness of the blue marl and clay bed at 90 feet, or *much more*. It may be sufficient here to observe, that at a depth which the well-sinkers believe to be 200 feet from the commencement of the blue marl on the hill, they have already sunk 160 feet without reaching the bottom of the bed.

“ The next stratum which we are to expect, according to the regular order, is the *lyas*, which has never yet been seen at Cheltenham, though every one has remarked its abundance near Gloucester, and particularly on the road to Tewkesbury, from whence it extends to the Malvern Hills, which it entirely surrounds. The *lyas* is divided into the blue and the white, which are, near Bath, separated by beds of marl and clay. The whole depth of this *lyas* stratum is estimated at 100 feet, and it contains copious springs. Beneath the *lyas* is the *red ground* which includes marl beds, rocks of mill-stone, grit, and Pennant stone (or micaceous schist). In the millstone rock of this ground the most abundant springs of Somersetshire arise, and I shall presently have occasion to show the mischiefs which, in the experiments for coal at Batheaston, have originated from their existence in this plentiful and lowest stratum.

“ The red ground has been measured to the depth of 180 feet, and has been followed by an argillaceous earth, called *duns* (or *thon* of the Germans) which has served as a roof to the coal. This latter has, in a few instances, been preceded by white stone or slate.

“ From what has been already advanced, it appears that the natural succession in this neighbourhood would be blue marl, *lyas*, red ground, and coal; and that,

upon the average calculation which I have adopted, we begin our search for coal under very advantageous circumstances at Cheltenham. Of the 1800 (average) feet, and 12 strata of water which occur from the summit of the chalk hills to the coal, we *here* are reduced to 460 (average) feet, and 3 strata of water.

“ So that allowing an additional 30 feet of blue marl to the 160, which have already been sunk in that stratum, there will remain (to complete the 460 feet) 270 feet from the top of the *lyas* to the Coal; a calculation which corresponds exactly with that of Mr. Townsend.

“ That this average estimate is not always quite correct, and that the order is not absolutely invariable, we have frequent occasions to know. At Batheaston, near Bath, attempts have been made to reach coal under circumstances which appear precisely similar to those in which we are placed at Cheltenham. In a section which I have exhibited, will be seen the various successive strata which have been penetrated, with their respective thicknesses. From this it will, at all events, be evident, that even here very great uniformity prevails as to the nature of the materials through which the pit was sunk. After the *blue marl* had been entered to the depth of 210 feet, the *lyas beds* appeared. As soon as the miners had perforated this stratum, the water immediately rose and overflowed their pit. They erected a powerful engine, and having cleared their way, bored through the *red ground* into the *mill stone*. The copious springs which I have already noticed as existing in this bed, instantly rose up and overpowered the engine. Here the misfortune, and the want of ultimate

success, was owing to the abundance and force of the springs. There can be little doubt but that beneath those strata coals would have been found.

" It has been remarked as a geological fact that the springs which occasioned the abandonment of the attempt, are the most abundant springs of Somersetshire. In this county it is, perhaps, not the same; and the chances may be in our favour.

" I omit some unusual varieties in the succession of strata, such as of basaltic rocks being superincumbent on the coal, &c. as they seem to occur under other circumstances than ours, and venture to sum up our account something in the following way. Coal certainly exists beneath the strata which surround us, and the comparative distance to it, is, probably, very inconsiderable. We have the advantage of being not only actually within the coal range of the country as it has been established by the best geologists, but of also living in a county, and near other counties, where abundant supplies are already produced. We must, however, be subject to some uncertainty as to the thickness of the several strata, their exact order, and the abundance and power of the springs: nor can we possibly have any accurate knowledge of the nature of the coal, or of the value of the seams which may appear. Of the dislocations or faults of this neighbourhood, we have also hitherto had no opportunities of acquiring any distinct knowledge, and from the appearance of coal such as has been exhibited to us (the produce of the marl beds) no decisive inference can be drawn, because such vestiges frequently appear in the superior beds, particu-

larly the coral rag, in which a trial for coal would be highly ridiculous.

“I shall only add as an important caution, that we must most carefully guard against too near an approximation to the Saline Springs, as it may happen that coal-pits, should it be found worth while to work them, may act as an under-ground drain, and carry off the super-incumbent water, fresh as well as saline—an operation by which the town of Cheltenham would make a miserable exchange of an article by which it at present flourishes, and in which it has no rival, for another—with which it is already supplied in sufficient abundance, at a tolerably reasonable rate.

“*Cheltenham, June 28th, 1814.*”

The following observations, made at the excavations of the Sherborne Waters, will show the geological relations of the Cheltenham Waters. Below the superficial soil, loom, and sand, nine feet in depth, is found fresh water. Next appears the blue clay. This immense bed, extending through the vale, and originating the waters, appears to have been deposited by successive depositions in layers from six to eighteen inches in thickness, and scarcely ever exceeding this amount. The distinctness of the depositions is evinced by the circumstance of different classes of organic remains being found in the different layers, whilst some contain only flags and other vegetable remains, and some being

less compact\* than others. The saline waters ooze through the less compact layers. Some idea of the situations of the saline waters may be formed from the following relation of the origins of the waters at the Sherborne Spa, which, we are glad to find, have of late received more encouragement than we had previously intimated. No. 1, is found about thirty-four feet; No. 2, which we are informed is a very valuable water, about seventy-five feet; and No. 3, sulphuretted saline, about a hundred feet from the surface. These waters are kept separate by distinct reservoirs, and do not undergo the action of pumping till drank. From this cause, and being raised by a peculiar ingenious method from immediately under the room, the waters are more transparent and fresh than they would be were they pumped into reservoirs from wells at a distance. †

A company for procuring coal from the Forest of Dean, at 18s. per ton to subscribers, is now formed. It is to be hoped that this speculation

\* The compactness is according to the depth and pressure from above.

† These particulars partly confirm and partly add to the valuable information contained in the Preface and Third Chapter of Dr. Jameson's Treatise on the Cheltenham Waters.

will succeed, to defeat a monopoly by which the price of that article has been kept up for the last year at the enormous rate of 26s. and 28s. per ton.

Mr. Pitt is now sinking a shaft, in quest of coal in the neighbourhood, at Cranham, near Painswick. Some persons in Worcestershire lately sunk a shaft for coal to the depth of a hundred and seventy yards; they penetrated the blue clay and arrived at red marl. Copper ore and gypsum were found, but no coal. This experiment cost the individuals £.2000!

*New Works for the supply of Cheltenham with Water.*

An act has just been obtained for this useful object. The advantages, which will be derived by the town, must be apparent from the following comparative analyses of the waters now used, and those which the company will supply.

Gr.

1. Quantity of precipitate obtained from the springs on Col. Prowse's property, to be devoted to the new supply, amounts to .....	1.5
2. Purest Cheltenham pump-water out of sixteen pumps in various parts of the town .....	7.4
3. Water mixed in equal proportions from sixteen pumps .....	11.6

The causes which have rendered the common water of Cheltenham impure are these: 1. There being no sewers, the filth of drains naturally percolates the sand, and thus reaches the wells; also where *dry* wells, receptacles of ordure, are near, the water is often most evilly flavored. 2. Gravel in many parts of the town, for instance, in the Crescent, possesses certain mineral combinations which communicate a metallic taste.

The objects of the company appear to be perfectly disinterested, as the proposed rates of supply are merely such as to cover their expenses.

The springs are situated two miles east of the town, in North-field farm, the property of G. B. Prowse, Esq. of Charlton Park. The water from the cisterns of seven springs, by means of communicating pipes, will be received into one reservoir ten feet square and ten deep, built of stone, and arched over. The distance from this reservoir to the highest spring is about 500 yards. From this reservoir an iron main of five inches diameter will be continued on about 1300 yards, when it will reach the large reservoir, which is to be 80 feet square, and will contain about 11,000 barrels of 36 gallons each. From the large reservoir the water will be conveyed by an iron main (six inches di.) about 2,500 yards,

where it will reach the High Street opposite to Berkeley Place. The main will be continued along the High Street, from which, at the different crossings, service-pipes will branch off to supply the houses in the different streets. The fall from the highest spring to the large reservoir is about 230 feet, and the fall from the latter to the High Street is about 200 feet, making a total fall of 430 feet. Coolness and purity will be the result of the complete covering in of the water from the spring to the house cisterns.

We regret, however, that the rill at the picturesque Glenfall, as well as the Chelt itself, will be drained dry.\*

### *Public Prints.*

After my death, I wish no other herald  
But such an honest chronicler as Griffith.

Upon the whole this is our sentiment towards the earliest paper (Griffith's Chronicle, Wednesday), for we have a sort of old esteem for it. It is temperate in opinion, charitable in principle,

\* We have to make our acknowledgments to Mr. Henney for this and much other interesting and valuable information.

authentic in information, and, for all we have seen, well spoken without sycophancy. It carries a heavy load, which sometimes is apt to hang fire, or scarcely go off at all, and at others there may be too much frippery of verbiage and indiscriminate praise in the local criticisms. It has ever drawn good prose communications from respectable sources. "Should auld acquaint be forgot," there is among those whom we wot of, "One Unknown," Archimedes, and a

"Rogue, a wag, his name is —,  
A notable dissembling lad, a crack."

But the poet's corner is the "bag o' the bee." The choicest ensamples of wild honey are recognized under the signatures of W. L. Bowles, (occasionally,) W. H. H. and Reubens, the author of *Tendrils*, a poet of excellent juvenile pretensions.

The Journal, they say, has been a sort of fire-ship, but we have nothing to do with the speculations of the day. It is more correct and nervous in composition, and in better keeping of late. It is a print of talent, sparkles with *jeux d'esprit*, "corns of true salt," and, when under judgment and veracity, exhibits a laudable independence. As to the last point, "Now this *overdone*, or come *tardy off*, though it makes the unskilful laugh, cannot but make the judi-

cious grieve." For both parties "a hint in tender cases is enough."

*Races (third Week in Ju'y).*

This is a matter of much increasing spirit; they are held on the picturesque elevation of Cleeve Cloud. A Town Cup of costly workmanship is annually run for. The chief subscribers are Lords Sherborne, Ducie, Sir Henry Lippincott, the Berkeleys, Messrs. West, Mitton, and Benson. They were formed by removal of the late annual meeting at Kingscote. Well crammed hotels, profusions of gambling, balls, and plays are natural consequences.

To us, who like to see the burlesque as well as the grave in the farce of human life, the *row* of a race-course is as good as any thing else. Fry in his cap with the cry of "Royal dandy-candy now selling off;" "Mister Punch, Mister Punch;" "A list, a list, gentlemen, terrible high bred cattle," &c.; shyers of sticks at snuff-boxes, and minstrels "whom liberal shepherds call by a grosser name," chaunting the "Roving soldier," or "Westbury cocking," and especially the pathetic fellow last year with his "Indeed I lost my love, she took the black veil;" and Spring, Heales, and White-headed Bob

sparring,—if not in the best taste, are all part of the entertaining and fantastical of human diversity of character and action. At all events, these affairs have the same self-recommendation as the editor of Grose's Vulgar Dictionary bestows on his own book, “The *moral* influence (says he) of the Lexicon Balatronicum will be more certain and extensive than that of any methodist sermon that has ever been delivered within the bills of mortality.” Besides, Pope assures us, that “vice to be hated needs but to be seen;” in this volume it cannot be denied that *she is seen very plainly*; and a *love of virtue* is, therefore, the *necessary result of perusing it.*”

### *Theatre.*

Under the management of that talented performer, Mr. Yates, with the very able aid of Woulds and Farley, and the invariable visits of the stars, it ought to do well; but was it not for the more crowded houses on the amateurs'\* nights, seemingly, there would be more labour than profit. A new Theatre is spoken of.

\* Colonel and Captain Berkeley, Messrs. Austen, and O. Watt.

*Local Biography.*

Nature requires from her disciples not only a patient discipline of mind, but a calm, simple, and translucent faculty of reason, before she admits them to the light of her secret operations. The wisdom of her works lies too deep to be fathomed by vanity and presumption ; she unfolds herself only to the more chaste approaches of philosophy, and a “just humiliation of the spirit of man to her laws.”

Of those who have added a superior presence to Cheltenham, our late friend Dr. Jenner stands highest. With his public history every one is so well acquainted that to dwell upon it for a moment were superfluous ; at least,

“ Not to know him argues yourself unknown,  
The lowest of your throng.”

But with the more intimate qualities of a man’s character, however great the individual, few can be possessed. The home-scenes in which he went down the vale of years, the sweet rills of thought which “flowed alway” from the sequestered fountain of his mind, and the habitudes of his private life, are not so hackneyed topics.

A plain and not ancient nor yet modern dwelling-house, exhibiting rather English comfort and

respectability than any ostentatious appearances, formed his philosophic abode. It opens to a delicious bit of greensward, which is bounded at one angle by a detached church-tower, ivy-clad and time-browned ; at another copped with trees, so grouped as to resemble a small grove, receding under the huge Norman towers of Berkeley castle. Within the trees is a root-house filled with heaps of fossils. In the front of the green a single willow bends her tresses to the earth, and the parti-coloured boles of one or two planes and acacias, multiply the objects. A circular gravel-walk and shrubbery fringe the whole. The side views are formed of park ground swells, the knolls of a wooded vale, with the giant reclining of Stinchcomb in the distance. The grass is animated with domestic birds, among which were those pretty varieties of their tribe the Borrowdale duck : formerly an eagle was kept.\*

The mind may easily conceive a figure, as he is seen in Hobday's picture, of the middle height, but stout and broad-shouldered, stooped somewhat like a disencumbered Atlas by the weight

\* Mr. Hunter indulged a similar taste at his country-house. Dr. Jenner never doomed any of these birds to the knife.

of years, in the sable drapery of professional propriety, pacing cheerfully, and without the decrepitude of age, round this fairy spot of earth. With look serene, grave and yet not austere, contemplative and yet unsaddened, at times he halts in his accustomed pace. Perhaps the setting sun, shedding a bergamish warmth upon tower and tree, shall have now caught his eye, and the origin and source of the beautiful phenomenon of light detained his imagination, or some new grace in painting flashed over his observation, and kindled up his mind; or the song of a bird shall have attracted his ear, and its relative place in the creation, and the proper distribution of its harmony, excited his fancy, and drawn forth a history so simple, consistent, and complete, that the intimacy betwixt the interpreter and object excites pleasure and wonder. Perhaps a flower shall have created a pause, and he joins to the mention of it some hitherto unobserved circumstance or peculiar ordinance of nature. At a certain hour its bells open to receive the visit of a particular insect, or it shuts with the sun, or indicates changes of the weather, or blows at the coming of the winged visitant of another clime. Perhaps he shall have stopped at a scattered assemblage of micklewood brecchia, carelessly deposited on the turf; aspiring to the

secrets of the “earth beneath and waters under the earth;” deluges sweep along, worlds are destroyed, rocks are carried forwards in heterogeneous atoms, or re-combined, and their forms and simplest elements are developed in a language marked with so much originality, so great scope of imagery and figure, that it falls on the listener like a charm. The ideal termination of his philosophy passes into hypothesis so simple and grand in the first design and final results ; objects are so contrasted, undiscovered analogies so traced, that incredulity is suspended by the aversion from doubt. Carried away by the enthusiasm of the theorist, the imagination exclaims,

How charming is divine philosophy !  
Not harsh, as crabbed and dull fools suppose,  
But musical as is Apollo’s lute.

Within his walls, without pompous or ceremonious lording, without assumption of personal consequence, and overawing superiority before others, or like some of whom we ken, looking the vinegar-faced tyrant at home and the sneaking sycophant abroad, as was Newton and Boyle, he was “affable, humble, diffident, and mild.” Theme chaced theme, the hour of langour and suspense followed the mind’s excitement as the slower and more regular march of a picturesque

river succeeds its more rapid currents and impetuous transitions; the musical group of the drawing-room heard the solo of a self-composed medley, or the quiet convivialist found a companion to his cigar in the sociality of his disposition.

Temperate in his habits, he retired early to his couch, and the breakfast hour found him busied with his coffee at the parlour fire, and supplying some casual guest with the fragrant "Mocha." A scrap of paper, transferred from the toilet, and inscribed with the first impromptu that his genius may have caught on the wings of the morning, embraced some new speculation into the laws of nature, the growth of subterranean seeds, the formation of hydatids into tumors, analogies between coralline bodies and men; or some reflection hurried down like a cretan note, or the fruit of an epigrammatic vein, incited by some singularity of human character. It may have happened that the morning shall have brought some curious stranger from a distant country, and the time passes in a domestic prelection upon the rules of vaccine security; or some rural son of Esculapius may have arrived to discuss a particular case, and in nine instances out of ten noontide will have found

the intelligent idler calmly revelling in the beloved regions of favourite speculation.

Mid-day brings him to his study, over which are strewed the faithful reporters of his habits, and subjects of his attention ; a cuckoo's egg in a nest, a careless arrangement of morbid preparations, an assemblage of minerals, endorsed and analysed, some sections of madrepore and dry wood to explain a favourite theory, a drawing of comic characters, the materials of a chemical experiment in progress, two ducks united by malconformation, an egg with double yelks, a profusion of scraps and books form the chaotic materials of a well-furnished *studio* : “ I never heard,” said he, “ of more than one chaos, but in my house there are many.” Somewhat, however, in its incomparable negligence, marks at once the blending of activity of mind with indolence of person, and habits of procrastination. Seated to execute something half finished, now applying to, now receding from his task, shewing dread of interruption yet pleased to be interrupted, the dislike of confinement of attention for any length of time to one train of thought, the postponement of any requisite undertaking till it could no longer be postponed, and delay favoured with smiles, till it became

needful to thrust it off with a violent impulse, shewed rather the want of discipline and regularity in earlier days, than any natural inaptitude for more sustained and severe study.

In his excursions the interest of a mind affiliated to home, was evinced in his intimate acquaintance with the history of particular objects, and connected circumstances. In fact, every thing called up the active intelligence of a mind for ever seeking the knowledge of cause and effect, or pouring the affections of the heart over the kindred associations of youth.

Upon the last occasion of our walking together, one of those melancholy and pensive days in the autumn when the vestiges of summer are gradually receding into fall and decay, he retarded his walk, as usual, to discuss certain natural appearances and productions, and connect with them various speculations concerning their origin and essential attributes, according to certain principles of order and utility in the scheme of creation.\* He pointed to a recess where there had been a "holy well," the superstitions concerning which he explained by re-

\* When puzzled with any natural phenomena, he was accustomed to make use of the phrase of Rich. II. in the soliloquy at Pomfret, " Yet, I'll hammer it out!"

ference to natural causes ; he marked the progress of a chesnut tree planted by a relative, the accord of the song of a redbreast with the season, and the uses of some vegetable matter which overspread a pond by the road-side in preserving the sweetness of the water.

In the comparative qualities of human beings he was well versed, and was wont to contrast the “something vagabond” in genius with its glorious effects, and to ascribe benevolently the imprudence, so peculiar to the gifted by nature, to a physical condition. He visited, with the keenest animadversions of natural sensibility in its behalf, the cold regardless feelings which left it to neglect and ruin. With the fiery grandeur of a generous mind he gave full vent to his aversion to those sordid characters who endeavour to poison with the rank breath of inviolous sentiment and grovelling policy the underling of superior merit. Soon after the death of Chatterton (a perpetual stain to his birth-place), he strolled into the exchange of a city more famed for the gladiatorialship of modern times than liberal and enlightened feelings; here he overheard a number of persons engaged in barter; struck with their style and language, he exclaimed involuntarily, “Can I be one of these?”

Without the mere professions of a patron, he was not only fond of having a “batch of geniuses about him,” but if he saw “signs of true genius with empty pockets,” he was foremost in supplying its needs. He said, “I have often found these men up to their chin, but I would never let them sink below.” His generosity, however, was not limited to mind; once, in a journey to Bath, he stopped at an inn, the mistress of which had not prospered in her concerns: he immediately proposed to her a situation elsewhere, and undertook to manage the affair, although they had scarcely met before. I enquired of him, “Whence comes all this, Doctor?”—“It is in the family,” he said; “all the progenitors on my side had it;” and afterwards he pointed out the portrait of one eminent for the same vein.

A young man brought up to agriculture applied to Dr. Jenner for the *let* of a house, but with the intention of exhibiting some poetical effusions. On the first occasion, from *gaucherie* of manner, or abruptness of introduction, the reception was not favourable. This person tried his fortune with the Doctor again, but drew forth his verses as scrupulously as a proposal of marriage or a petition. The Doctor, scanning them over, turned to Dr. W——, his friend, and

said, "What have we got here, Doctor? Something like genius, I think."—"You must go to town," said he, "and get among some of the great men in Paternoster-Row!" The individual, with as much simplicity as the Doctor, told a gentleman that he "was going to London as a literary adventurer!"—"A pretty adventure it will turn out," said the other. Accordingly he ventured into one of the great marts of the literary row. "What do you want, my friend?" said the bookseller, seeing an athletic shy countryman. "Employment as an author," replied the aspiring genius! "If I may judge from your shoulders, you are fitter for a porter than an author," replied the *seller* of books. This was a home stroke, and back came the bard\* into the country. This meritorious person, however, went afterwards to Cambridge, and has since taken a degree. Allowing for his situation in life, his performances were very respectable, and his powers, in local description, considerable. Dr. Jenner, after he was thus made acquainted with him, never lost sight of his interests.

No offers of professional preferment could take him from his brother at Berkeley. Here

\* These last circumstances in the anecdote were related to me on good authority.

his fame extended till it acquired for him a county practice, and supplied him, after a few years of frugality, with a respectable private fortune. He enjoyed the advantages of his brother's board, the reverend and patriarchal Stephen Jenner, until he married, and obtained the influence of Mr. Hunter's name, in assisting his views. At that time he was the sole pupil of Mr. Hunter in that part of the country, when it was not oppressed by a multitude of medical practitioners.

In his rides, when in early practice as a surgeon, he was accustomed to have the society of some friend, with whom he usually discoursed upon his favourite topics of science and philosophy. When any struck the hearer as new and remarkable, he would request him to take minutes.

He was acquainted with an immense number of the eminent characters of the times. Among poets he knew Moore, Campbell, Coleridge, and Bloomfield. Of those several individuals, interesting for their behests, with whom he had mingled much, he drew excellent anecdotal sketches. "What kind of a man," said I, "is so and so?" naming a great poet. "He possesses the qualities which I have ever found among these men, simplicity and ingenuousness

of disposition, with goodness of heart. He was always in love when he wrote his beautiful \_\_\_\_\_."

Once being told that he was too communicative, he said, "I show every thing to my friends but my back."

Towards many of the nobility, who liked his society, he expressed deep respect and esteem; he had a high sense of personal respectability. *Debellare superbos*, the proud maxim of the ancient Romans, entered not into his creed, save where reason was subdued by personal pride, and aristocratical distinction and artificial superiority put forwards to level and reject supereminence according to intellect and nature; there the swelling contempt of his soul burst forth in unrepressed indignation. "It is all very well," he said, "to attain to a certain rank; but there is one beyond, where mind and nature cease, and man becomes a thing made of imaginary dignity, of form, rules, starch, and ruffles." Towards the pride of purse and barrenness of soul, which are the curse of mindless wealth, he held himself in the distance of a reproving spirit, that would own no affinity. "I know no distinctions in my empire," said the great Catherine, "but betwixt him who is a gentleman and him who is not." One of the kings of

France condescending to give some personal assistance to a great painter, excited looks of surprise from three Marshals, “I can make as many Marshals as I please,” said his Majesty, “but not one \_\_\_\_.” From the deficiencies which he found in more ostentatious society, he was led chiefly to gather about him those who could supply conversation with intelligence, and gratify his love of nature and originality with peculiarities of character not common nor imitative. That he was not guided in his choice of society by equality of wealth or station, excited, of course, the wonder and disapproval of inferior minds. On account of an inequality in intellect betwixt two parties proposed in marriage, where otherwise the pecuniary inducement was great, he urged disapprobation. “It would,” said he, “be marrying a farthing candle to a glittering star!”

A single ray of invention was a better introduction to him than the most persevering assiduities of mediocrity and common obsequiousness. The vanity of inferior talent he smiled at, and never on any occasion rebuked; his knowledge of human weakness was, in this respect, too extensive and perfect to admit censorious feelings. He “condescended to men of low estate,” who had access to him in a way

that seemed prohibitory of more valuable objects, and never failed to tell their own stories with the usual circuitous diffuseness. Of sarcasm he was capable, when there was cause. Two proposed to settle a noisy dispute by calculations: "I hope then," said he, "it will not be by vulgar fractions." A person once replying to him in a mutter, he said, "Are you a ventriloquist?"—"No."—"Then I am wrong, for I thought the voice came from the bowels." To a young man more ingenious than active, he said, "You are like the monkeys, who can both work and talk, but are too idle to do either till they are made." His mind was prone to a single object of pursuit, which absorbed almost undivided attention, till it was completed. This was the case in the execution of auto-performances, as well as in his regard to any undertakings of another in which he was interested. His nephew possessed talent for comic painting, and the superintendance of this youth's endeavours formed the amusement of his latter days. Of conception, originality, and design in art, he possessed a good knowledge, as well as a correct eye and cultivated taste. An error in his nephew's colouring excited the following epigram:

“ What strange expressions fell from Peter Pindar’s chops,  
The academic clouds he calls brass mops ;  
But S—— fills us higher with surprise,  
He throws long gravel walks across the skies.”

By the conceit of the lower orders he was rather entertained than annoyed : his own menials, as usually happens to others, rarely consulted their master. “ They seldom ask my advice till things come to extremes ; they go to so and so, who has a ‘ *desperate* good receipt.’ “ Contrary to my advice an old woman rubbed over a scald head with snuff ; next day little Tommy died.”

“ It has been commonly supposed that hedgehogs suck cows. The mouth of the hedgehog, however, is not large enough to embrace the nipple ; “ they contrive to suck them some how or other, for all that.” The truth is, the hedgehog has recourse to the cow’s belly, when lying down, for warmth. The prejudice, in many instances, has had this origin : a hind gives his master’s milk to a sweetheart, and at last he terminates his depredations by bringing in a poor hedgehog, saying, “ I have found out what sucked the cows.” “ A man shot every hedge-sparrow that came into his garden, not aware that they are harmless as respects garden rob-

bery, and, in some ways, the most useful of familiar birds. When this was told him, he says, "They rose the corn two shillings a bushel one year for all that!"

Talking of quacks, he said, "These fellows ascend like a rocket and come down like the stick."

The facility with which he conversed with the villagers in their own dialect, and adapted himself to their phraseologies and capacities was amusing. He once said to another, "You pass by these little children as *weeds*; *I* treat them at least as *vegetables*." A girl, no wise defective in robust health and vermillion cheeks, once opening the door to him at a patient's house, he said, "What shall we do for this poor creature, she is certainly in a galloping consumption?" When he walked about the town he was often surrounded by poor persons, to whom he gave money, or talked of rustic concerns. "The Doctor," said Col. N. K. to me, "is like a recruiting sergeant, always picking up recruits." To prevent vague and unthinking habits, he wished that servants, and persons in the middle classes of life, should be initiated in the elementary principles of natural philosophy. Accordingly he once examined a man-servant on the laws of gravitation; the Doctor let fall a knife, and asked why it fell? "Because you let

it go," said the person. He then explained the cause; but the pupil seemed to hate philosophy cordially, and was glad to escape. He did not like to be visited as a *lion*; and on one occasion said, "They come to see me under pretence of visiting — — —, the puff of the country; indeed it is built of *puff*\* stone." A visitor who came into the town asked a native what were Dr. Jenner's pursuits? The reply was, "Feeding poultry and clipping box-hedges." The *profanum vulgus*, on most occasions, represent the pursuits of superior minds according to their own ideas, and in this way he had much ground of complaint. He said that he had been obliged to forego many investigations in natural science through the constructions of the vulgar upon the singularity of his appearance in the fields.

When he was studying the natural history of the cuckoo he used to lie for hours under hedges. Sometimes he introduced the young cuckoo upon a table, in a nest of hedge-sparrows, to show it in the act of ejecting the latter from the nest. Whilst he was engaged in seeking the materials for his essay on the migration of birds, he encountered a celebrated antiquary, who, like himself, was exploring the ruins of

\* Tufa.

Beverstone Castle, the one for sparrows' nests, the other for antiquities. Afterwards they met at a dinner-table, and one contended for the triumph of natural science, the other for art; but the antiquary, whose wit was keener, carried the day.

To panegyrical praise he bent his ear, evidently gratified, chiefly from an extreme sensitiveness in respect to his reputation. One day that I advised the publication of his latest discoveries in vaccination, which I had arranged for him, he said, "Alas! they will be received like the oracles of Cassandra; the second rising of the sun will not be like the first!"

Once reflecting upon the price of fame, he said, "I know that lady well, and she has cost me dear!" A lady expressed surprise that one so glorified should be so humble, "That is just as I would wish to be thought of."

Of the defect of reflection in women he frequently spoke. He once stopped a young lady in the act of biting a poisonous fruit. "Had we not been present," he said, "she would have eaten that; how is all this?"

His tenderness, love of kindred, and of home, were warm as the love of the turtles for their mates. His heart melted into the most unextinguishable and sunny glow of kindness towards

all who owned a relationship. He deemed the resentments of this world to be of very little consequence; and his chastenings were warnings of benevolence. His views of philanthropy embraced the widest scope, and he bounded with delight when a friend showed him a chart of the world upon which he had marked a plan of the progress of vaccination. In its expansion he lost not sight of the more practical and limited claims within his own immediate sphere. To every sort of charity he bestowed bounteously, and yet so prudently as not to cripple the wing which spread every where shelter and covering. Lewis XV. said, that by every favour done to another he made nine enemies and one ungrateful rascal; but Jenner was not deterred nor chilled by the frequent ingratitude of individuals. “What is the unbefriended man of genius but a wanderer without a home, who sits down by the waters and weeps? He came with all the good Samaritan in his soul, held out the right hand of fellowship to the sufferer, and took down the harp from the willow.”\*

The simple story of his wedded life preserves the bond of connexion with nature, exhibited in

\* Masonic Jennerian Sermon, by the Rev. T. D. Fosbroke. Walker, Gloucester. 1823.

every important event of his existence. After he had discovered the benignant influence of green colours in melancholy, he was called to a lady in that case. For her he selected a retirement in a small valley among beech woods, where every thing around was green, and lone, and still. In the dewy freshness and calm serenity of this woodland spot she recovered. In the ivied cottage which she occupied, Jenner formed the foundations of a union with this lady, whose life was a personification of virtue, and whose claims of family were suited to gratify the most ambitious mind ; it was conceived in the very mould and form of his fancy and disposition. Up to the hour of his death he carried always about him a withered rose, which had been given to him by his partner in life : with which, like the lover of Akenside, who bore the urn of his departed mistress, he would not for worlds have parted. Of this I have been told since his death by one to whom he related the circumstance.

Mr. Hunter certainly first discovered his originality of mind, and directed his pursuits into a kindred path, both by force of example and precept. They seem ever to have affected each other. When Mr. Hunter formed the design of adding to his lectures others on natural history

and comparative anatomy, he invited Dr. Jenner to the lustre of a chair under his auspices. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter said, "You must come to us." "No," he replied; "I am too fond of the black-birds at Berkeley." Jenner's haunts cleaved to his mind; the grove, the meadow, the winged and footed creatures "in every class and kind," were to him a more familiar face than that of man; and he loved better to hold "Converse with nature's charms, and view her stores unroll'd," than to dwell in the hollow and heartless society of cities, and places of public resort. "He might have spread his pinions upon the favoring gales of popularity, and built his aërie in the lofty cliffs of ambition; but he preferred the amiable tranquillity of the retired songsters of the grove, and made his nest with the dove. He delighted in home, and home among persons of such habits as his were, is commonly a temple of virtue, sentiment, and reason. Luxuries and frivolities were not to him Lares and Penates, indispensable household gods, to whom an idolatrous service is paid."\*

What though he possessed some qualities of the *irritabile genus*, and yielded to slight causes

\* Masonic Jennerian Sermon, by the Rev. T. D. Fos-broke.

of discontent, which are extraordinary in men who have about them the means of following their favourite pursuits out of the reach of the world or the world's cares, they were but slight blemishes. But, in truth, it seems allotted that habitual melancholy shall most frequently hover about the most beautiful minds, and those estates of life which would appear to be exempt from difficulties. A faithful description of this circumstance has been given in the character of Monkbarns, in the Antiquary, and exemplified in Klopstock.

In the pursuit of a discovery his attention was engrossed almost solely with one object, and for a time he lost all interest in any other. He seldom read any book entirely, but sought information by dipping, and by leading men to converse of what they best understood. He never attempted long compositions, and excelled most in epistles, of which the style, like that of his conversation, was jocund, easy, and figurative. This beauty of correspondence, which bore the impress of his original and peculiar ideas, would have been unattainable by art.

He was more partial to enquiry by means of experiment and ocular demonstration than books, according to the precepts of Mr. Hunter. On account of the constant and harassing corre-

spondence relative to vaccination, and certain natural dispositions alluded to, he had little time to bring forward his mental stores. In this tardiness of gestation he rather resembled the lion than the fox, according to the *apologue* of *Æsop*. He might have acquired unexceeded reputation in medical and natural science. He might have been greater than *Boerhaave*, and not inferior to *Haller*. In many respects he was similar to the latter, if we can gather somewhat of personal character from the epistles and poetical sentiments of *Haller*; he took similar views of general and particular benevolence, and of human nature, was partial to similar pursuits, and akin in strong affections, but he had less of industry, melancholy, religious awe, and metaphysical penetration.

His *Essay on the Migration of Birds* was completed before the discovery of vaccination, but not read to the Royal Society until after his death. The conclusion on the singing of birds is an exquisite specimen of his mind. The publication of the *Essay on Artificial Eruptions* was opposed by some eminent friends, and urged by others. In this affair, I believe, I gave the casting vote myself, which decided its appearance. The result has fulfilled expectation; the periodical press, and more especially the expe-

riments of the more eminent practitioners of a sister kingdom, Ireland, constantly bear testimony to the great good wrought by this work.

In establishing the cause of vaccination, Dr. Jenner showed the wisdom of one well versed in the disposition of men, and the knowledge of such modes of conviction as are most acceptable to the human mind. But had he not had both fortune, fame, and high alliance, his merit would have been crushed or faintly supported, envy would have stung him to death, and more powerful ambition would have seized and appropriated his laurels. Like the night-shade, his fame would have blossomed only over the tomb. In his life he would not have known the sunshine of the presence-chamber, the gratulation of universal applause, and the high rewards of treasury munificence. Of all that poor merit could have done, he who has mingled in the scenes of real life needs not to be informed.

In some points of view his mind was too anxious for the event. Had he thrown off assistance which only served to encumber himself, and to aid the private interests of men of little mark "or likelihood," and left the turbid commotions and bad passions of bad men, like filth in pure water, to subside when they ceased to be agitated, truth would have been left at last transparent

and pure. One who is about to communicate a discovery to the world, requires sufficient knowledge of human nature to disregard its ingratitude, and to present his gift with indifference, whether it be received or rejected; otherwise he will become the victim of the ready ministers of malevolence and folly.

At all events, to the loss of others, much which would have been valuable was superseded by matters excited by the heat of the moment, by persons destined to be contemptible, and disputes meet only for oblivion.

His literary proclivities consisted in epigrams, parodies, facetious verses, and village dialogue. His verses on the signs of weather, which have got into print, are excellent, though Swift has, in part, anticipated him. He was fond of tracing the analogies of proper names.

The life of Jenner is the history of an amiable being, whose sphere was amid the creations of nature, and the pursuits of a benignant and placid philosophy, a gentle spirit "still climbing trees in the Hesperides," full of tranquil thoughts and temperate impulses, whose existence was best endured and most happily disposed out of the bustle of the busy, or gaiety of the gay.

It is worthy of record, that the house which

he inhabited on his first settling in Cheltenham, is situated opposite a drug shop, in the lower part of the High Street, then considered a capital but now an inferior residence; afterwards he resided at No. 8, in St. George's Place. For some years he was the sole physician of note in the town, being used to spend some part of the year in it, and the remainder at Berkeley. In general practice he gained nothing by his discovery; perhaps he lost. Men are disposed to regard one engrossing pursuit as a cause of disqualification in others. In this they erred. As to the common-place drudgery and requisite obedience to the calls of the public, his desultory habits, personal independence, and aversion from the level to which he must have lowered himself, may have rendered him less fit than more dependent men; but on occasions which required unforeseen ingenuity, he shewed more invention and mind in the application of curative processes than the majority of those who worked harder. A noted personage who long knew him observed, "There are many in whose skill in practice I would rather have confided, but Jenner was more of a medical philosopher than any of them." In fact the history of medicine informs us that success in obtaining practice is not to be relied upon as a *ny* test of merit

The well known remark of Dr. Johnson in the life of Akenside, is the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Towards Cheltenham, though latterly, when he was on one occasion asked for at the Plough, they did *not know* any such person,\* he entertained a warm regard. One of his last letters to the author concludes with a prediction that science would some day take root there. Whilst here he formed a literary society.

After much perseverance a sculptured memorial of this great man has been executed by Severe.

The ancients highly distinguished genius in medicine ; Hippocrates was made a tutelary deity by the people of Abdera ; the Athenians bountifully set upon his head a crown of gold weighing 1000 pieces of their gold coin, and raised a statue for a perpetual memorial of his genius and learning. Among the Romans Antonius Musa was honoured with a golden statue, and Quintus Stercinus received in lieu of posthumous honours 125,000 pieces of gold annually out of the Augustan treasury. But it is humiliating to think, and indeed reminds us of Hume's

\* The ignorance or knowledge of resident medical men among persons about hotels, is remarkably *innocent* and *disinterested*.

famous reflections upon human estimation when speaking of Becket's shrine, that an extensive empire, which often has lavished its tributes upon mean and even doubtful pretensions, should have been thus niggard towards a great national benefactor; and the reflexion applies still more strongly to the general apathy of the jealous and discordant profession to which he belonged. It is well for his immediate countrymen that they have proved an exception to the familiar adage to which the Nazarenes gave rise, and have deserved almost solely the credit of having duly honoured the deceased.

These anecdotes are re-published because they present a faithful picture of Dr. Jenner's conversation and habits, in compliance with the express wishes of several most eminent literary persons in the metropolis. If in any provincial circles they excited opposite sentiments, much must be allowed for the nature of local opinion, which generally consists of egoisms and prejudices. Was the taste of editors *sans esprit*, or of communities, among whom a great tragedian was invariably hissed in his department previous to his appearance in the metropolis, deserving of regard, every authority of note might be marshalled on our side. The generality of biographical specimens in this country, indeed, are

little more than a mere lapidary's specifications of dates and circumstances, "written in that lumbering style and happy strain of mediocrity, which is a certain passport to dust and cobwebs." How inadequate is all this, in which the habits of individuals, and the features of their characters are suppressed, to develope the speaking life of men's characters, and the way in which their being and interests are affected by the society and age in which they existed. These an able writer declares to be the true end of literary history and personal biography. Save Walton's lives, the biography of Johnson by Boswell, and the sketches of Watt and Playfair by Jeffrey,\* our literature presents but few felicitous specimens. Dr. Jenner, with his usual good sense, was wont to quote Bacon, who, complaining of the deficiency of the biographical literature of his day, says, "that the actions both *great and small, public and private*, should be so blended together as to renew that genuine native and lively representation, which forms the peculiar excellency and use of biography." Dr. Johnson says, "It is seldom executed; they only

\* The sketches of Errinensis in the *Lancet*, and (of the Irish Bar) in the *New Monthly*, notwithstanding personalities, may be included as life-like and vigorous.

who live with a man can write his life with genuine exactness and discrimination." In the Rambler he says, that many men's butlers could have given their biographies better than they have been done by the learned. It is not singular, perhaps, considering the formality and reigning bad taste in this respect, that biography "should still be full of novelty and freshness," and only breaking from the shell," and that specimens in the "cross and garland" style, "with grandfather's love of epitaph," stiff and cautious as periwigs and clipped box-hedges, and heavy as pigs of lead, still keep their ground.

DR. JAMESON.—This gentleman, deceased in 1824, practised many years in Cheltenham. His literary claims are founded chiefly on two works, one on the Cheltenham waters, the other on the classification of diseases according to the different ages of human beings. He appears to have been a man of indefatigable reading, and consequently considerable learning. Of his industry I have seen proof in an immense folio of lectures on natural philosophy, in his own handwriting. Among other learned ingenuities he formed a map of the globe, on which he represented the manners and customs of the different countries. His skill in the use of remedies was

inferior to his knowledge of diseases; with this deficiency no learning can succeed in medicine. The destruction of his mental and bodily powers was accelerated by excess of study. The second work could have required no other effort than that of transposing general descriptions of diseases under the heads of particular ages.\* Written in the plainest style, and not always strictly correct, aspiring to none of the higher graces or spirited features of eloquent composition, and too often redundant in words and elementary details, the "History of the Cheltenham Waters" is, nevertheless, the most faithful account of the origin and progress of the different Spas, of their chemical qualities, and practical applications, and, barring some antiquated notions in pathology, of the diseases in which they are used. It contains much concerning the medical topography, which could be gained only by original observation and personal research, and upon the whole remains, what it is generally considered to be, the best work on the subject.

Beyond a St. Andrew's degree, the next subject had no claim to a *doctorate*, but the days when authority and fame are to be gained by mere learning, and such testimonies of it as diplomas, are

\* *Essay on the Changes of the Human Body.*

past. The world will soon cease to be deceived by that which passive application may gain, and chartered stupidity confer. Such artificial claims have formed the arbitrary and supercilious grounds upon which pedantry and sloth have stationed themselves to reject with hostility all pretensions according to natural indications.

The only true test of excellence in medicine is *intellect*. Of this, in the first place, the genuine criteria are invention and discovery, not a mere dead weight of acquirements; and in an inferior form, exquisite discrimination of diseases, strong natural penetration, and the most apt and successful application of curative processes, to all which an individual with mere learning may be inadequate. Towards the true and legitimate cultivation of the intellect in medicine, literary erudition can go only a small way. Observation and research into nature, aided by a strong reasoning faculty, and a subtle art in ascertaining the consecutive relations of things, and in distinguishing the true from the false, form the only paths to sound and abiding fame. Thus the natural distinction between excellence in medicine and its opposite, lies not in the possession or lack of sundry parchments, but betwixt him who practises medicines with wider

views and a superior science, and him who does not.\*

THOMAS CREASER, M. D.—Out of respect to the memory of one whose friendship to the author was zealous and warm, and as an acknowledgement of the kind attentions of his surviving relatives, the substance of some observations published at Dr. Creaser's death, are here again re-printed, with some few additions.

He who commemorated others is himself worthy of an “honest chronicler.”† Our late highly respected friend was educated in the rudiments of his profession in Berkshire, and concluded his studies in London. He was contemporaneous in pupilage with Sir A. Cooper, Professor Colman, and others, with whom he sustained afterwards that liberal intercourse to which superior claims only are admitted. As an operative and consulting surgeon at Bath, he succeeded in the acquisition of the highest eminence and most extensive practice. The circle of his professional and private connexions was

\* On the subject of intellect opposed to learning, see Edinburgh Review on German Literature, *some years back*.

† He wrote sketches of the biography of Drs. Jenner and Parry. For the latter see Gent. Magazine.

most ample and select. On account of the ill health of his only son, he relaxed in practice and removed to this town. He then abandoned surgery, and till his death continued to practise merely in a desultory manner among his friends.

His scientific acquirements were many and valuable in their kind. In physiology and pathology he kept due pace with discovery and improvement from the day of Mr. Hunter to the time present. With most of the eminent characters, both of the metropolis and country, who have existed during the last forty years, he had held some intercourse. For Drs. Parry and Jenner he entertained a permanent and enthusiastic esteem. Through his intimate knowledge of them, and full conviction of their general truth and solidity, he was much impressed and influenced in his practice by the doctrines of the former illustrious pathologist. He introduced vaccination into the West of England, and through life, by many writings and personal exertions, adhered to Dr. Jenner with that sincere firmness and fidelity which strongly marked all his attachments and biasses. Though he possessed more of attainment than genius, his mind was not deficient in ideas of improvement. In the Edinburgh Journal he lately proposed a better method of amputation, and retained for

publication numerous miscellaneous observations, chiefly pathological and surgical. After his decease, what could be gathered together was committed to me by his friends to be inspected, with a view to the publication of any material relic. That he did not execute more was to be ascribed not to a limitation of powers, but an injudicious mode of distributing time, and a constant vacillation from one object of pursuit to another.

Dr. Creaser was one who, at his offset in life, was victorious over circumstances of difficulty, whose auspicious consideration in the minds of others, was gained, as is rare, rather by his own patient and persevering struggles, than by any aid of parties or patronage, any assumption of a particular character, or any recommendation of names. In his progress through life he had no sheep's clothing to doff, and availed himself none at all of those dissemblings and disingenuous disguises of opinion which are of so great account in our generation. He scorned to observe any concealment of his first thoughts, and through the whole course of his being preserved the same open and honest front towards the world, with which he began it. Of hypocrisy in every shape he professed the deepest scorn. In the consideration of his profession and its followers

he was disposed unfavourably towards every intrusion which sullied its virtue and respectability. In his comparative view of the present and former state of the profession, from much knowledge of the high intellectual characters of his younger days, he decided, perhaps, too fastidiously. In every tie of domestic life, or private friendship, he exhibited the most exemplary qualities of the heart.

Here I conclude my sketch of the medical history of the present Baiæ of Great Britain.\* Long may it flourish ere, like the luxurious retirement of the ancient masters of the world, it become a pile of mutilated ruins. These pages have been written rather for the amusement and peace which pursuits of a calm and retiring nature produce, than for any fame or high employment which they can bring. According to some, the dry and barren style is to be preferred

\* Even while the pen is going new improvements are projected. The Montpellier Spa is to be raised, and Thompson's fields are to be converted into a kind of Sydney Gardens, or Champs Elysées. The Sherborne Spa is to be illuminated, a line of handsome buildings, with a public fountain in front, are to be raised on the Sherborne property, before the Sherborne Avenue, and at the back of the Old Well Walk.

for medical tradition ; but the coarsest weeds are floriferous, and the aloe is not less medicinal for bearing a blossom. The obscurity of scientific language and professional technicalities, would only have prevented that general diffusion, which were necessary to render the work sufficient to the end in view. The essay is itself formed chiefly of reflections made as they suggested themselves, in such hours as could be consecrated to the Egerian grotto of thought. Few are the moments of real relaxation, which fall to the lot of those even moderately engaged in the business of life. These fugitive observations fixt with a cretan note, and now gathered together, are a kind of foliage which springs at such times from the prolific budding and shooting of the mind. As impartial statements, I hope they may serve the interest of a place which, like Paris to Morin, has differed in no respect from an hermitage to the writer, than that it has afforded to him the conversation of a few learned and eminent persons casually brought to it.\* He is aware that he is a labourer

\* Those who, in this essay, may expect to find statements made expressly to serve particular interests, whether local or individual, will be disappointed. The autho hopes that he may be the means of “ doing the

in a field, where abstracted efforts of the mind are of little account, where much is left to fortune, fancy, and caprice. But in the secret charm of letters, though of no validity with the world, many feelings are lulled which prey upon the soul in the common occupations of life, and as these increase in painfulness, we learn to love seclusion in this sort the more.

“Who would rob the hermit of his weeds,  
His few books, or his beads, or maple bowl?”

But with some persons it is usual to ascribe the authorship of a book in a watering-place to askance for popularity, as a mere effort, *ad captandum*. This is the language of men of contracted minds and vulgar sentiments, who habitually assign every undertaking to inferior motives, which interferes with their own interests or predilections ; or of such critics as are afforded by communities of recent rise and scanty erudition, where literature cannot have stricken deep root, and where the legitimacy and respect-

state some service,” but he has spoken of things *as they are*, neither disposed to “extenuate aught, nor set down aught in malice.” Works of this nature are generally mere collections of puffs ; but politic and commonplace as this practice is, I am of opinion that in the end “corruption wins not more than common honesty.”

ability of every mode of enterprise is compared by the familiar examples of trade and speculation. Indeed there are some places and some people with whom literature is received like perfumes by birds of carrion.

In every country and every profession the authors have been the greatest men. In all arts or sciences improvement has been effected by the inquiries or traditions of their professors. It is a laudable ambition to have magnified, however narrowly, the boundaries of a great system of knowledge, and to have gone along with the energy and improvement of the age. Surely less credit is due to those who, having no interest in the profession beyond present gain, return, like certain predatory animals, nothing to the soil whence they derive nurture. At all events, the time is not arrived when intelligence will suffer itself to be smothered up from the light by the base contagious clouds of invidious censoriousness.

Infallible success is not, however, always to be apprehended from letters. He who for the sake of sciencemingles but little with the world, will fail to profit by common modes of self-recommendation, and may remain ignorant of commanding and exhibiting his resources to the same advantage as others of meaner understand-

ings. And though “the labour that we love physics pain,” after unwearyed perseverance and emulous activity of mind, if the future reward does not at last come to pass, some mournful prescience at least are fulfilled—the premature decay of health, the early waste of youth and life, and the sting of disappointed hope.

And thus the native hue of resolution  
Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought ;  
And enterprises of great pith and moment,  
With this regard their currents turn awry,  
And lose the name of action !

# ADDENDA.

## METEOROLOGICAL TABLES FOR 1821-2.

TAKEN AT CHELTENHAM BY MR. MOSS.

THERMOMETER.					BAROMETER.			
Years. 1821.	Month- ly Max- imum.	Min- imum.	Medi- um.	Range.	Maxi- mum.	Min- imum.	Medi- um.	Range.
March	57.0°	26.5°	41.75°	30.5°	30.14°	28.99°	29.565°	1.15°
April	74.0	31.0	52.5	43.0	29.92	29.10	29.51	0.82
May	68	34	51	34	30.10	29.03	29.565	1.7
June	74.5	43	58.75	31.5	30.11	29.46	29.785	0.65
July	79.5	42.5	61	37	30.00	29.31	29.655	0.69
Aug.	82	46.5	64.25	35.5	29.88	29.29	29.585	0.59
Sept.	72.5	44.5	58.5	28	29.93	29.24	29.585	0.69
Oct.	68	36.5	52.25	31.5	30.04	28.94	29.49	1.1
Nov.	61	30.5	45.75	30.5	29.97	29.02	29.495	0.95
Dec.	59	30.5	44.75	28.5	29.99	28.13	29.06	1.86
1822.								
Jan.	51.5	27.5	39.5	24	30.07	29.10	29.585	0.97
Feb.	52.5	30.0	41.25	22.5	30.33	28.94	29.635	1.39
March	62.5	30.5	46.5	32	30.09	29.25	29.67	0.74
April	72	32.5	52.25	39.5	30.14	29.04	29.59	1.10

## WINDS.—1821-2.

Months.	N. No. of Days.	N. E. No. of Days.	N. W. No. of Days.	E. No. of Days.	S. No. of Days.	S. E. No. of Days.	S. W. No. of Days.	W. No. of Days.
April	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	6	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
May	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	1	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
June	4	15	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	$\frac{1}{2}$	3	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
July	5	1	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	6
August	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	8	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	9	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sept.	—	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	6	1	12	7
October	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	3	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nov.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	4	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	5
Dec.	$\frac{1}{2}$	—	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	7
January	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	3	$\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
February	$\frac{1}{2}$	—	1	—	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	12	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
March	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	1	—	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	11
	33	24	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	26	60	22	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	83 $\frac{1}{2}$

These Tables corroborate the statements pp. 249-50. By comparing the Tables for 1824-5 with those of 1821-2, the Northerly winds prevailed for a similar period of time in both. The E. and S. E. prevail in one nearly double the period that they do in the other, on account of a tendency of the S. wind to an easterly point in the years 1824-5. But the balance of the winds *due S.* being greatly in favour of 1821-2, nearly makes up the difference. In 1821-2, the S. W. and W. winds have the advantage over 1824-5, by one month, viz. as 6 to 5, which confirms, notwithstanding, the opinions which I have given p. 250.

We are sorry that the following elegant copy of verses was contributed too late for insertion in a more appropriate place. We are pleased, however, that we have an opportunity of connecting them, in any manner, with the scenes to which they do so much justice.

## AUTUMNAL RECOLLECTIONS

AT

## WINCHCOMBE HILL.

FAIR shines the autumnal sun, and freshly blows  
 The mountain breeze, laden with every scent  
 Of every mountain flower ! The murmuring bee  
 That with its drowsy hum, o'er the wild thyme  
 And honied herbage fluttering, passes by,  
 Makes not unpleasant music ; nor the sound  
 Of the shrill sheep-bell on the turf-y down ;  
 Nor low of herds that wander on the brink  
 Of the steep precipice ; nor shepherd's voice,  
 Nor bark of shepherd's dog ! nor shout of joy  
 Proclaiming gathered harvest on the plains,  
 Seems aught discordant to the general tone,  
 Nor aught disturbs the harmonies of nature.

To him who, careless of the steep ascent,  
 And heedless of the rugged path, has reached  
 The mountain's airy summit, sweet it is,  
 On this tall eminence, to sit and muse  
 Upon the world below, to contemplate  
 The chequered scene, and rich variety  
 Of hill and intermingled vale, to where  
 The softening distance closes, to behold  
 The mellow tints of the autumnal day  
 Spread o'er the swelling prospect, blending all

Its varied hues into a general mass  
Of loveliness, where each dividual part  
Appears, but not disparages the whole,  
And if his happier temper can repose  
On nature's beauties, nor need ought beside  
To wake sublimest feelings of delight :  
If he can wander o'er the enamell'd plain,  
Amid the trees, and on the grassy hill,  
Nor draw from recollection cause of woe ;  
Nor need associate with the present scene,  
The memory of past bliss to make it fair,  
But finds *all* fair in nature, he may range  
With rapturous and unbounded ecstacies  
Over the living landscape, from the edge  
Of Malvern's flowing line, along the vale  
Where distant Severn winds, and count the spires  
Of many a hamlet bosom'd high in trees  
Of full luxuriance, and the lofty towers  
Of many a city which the historic muse  
Distinguishes for deeds of art or arms :  
Thence following the vast circumference,  
May turn his backward gaze upon the scite  
Of some dark abbey, and the embattled walls  
And shafted windows, or the portal arch  
Of some fam'd castle, desolate and sad,  
Where once the frequent festival was held,  
And high carousal of the times of old,  
Now many a noble warrior lies entomb'd  
Amid the ruins grey, where ivy spreads  
Its clustering foliage. Him it might delight  
To sing this second Eden, and the vale

Of fruitful Evesham, and the plenteous stores  
Of nature's treasures spread upon a land  
So rich in nature's beauteousness and love.  
*Me* other themes befit of other times  
And different seasons, and the treasured tale  
Of days gone by, when summer blessed the plains,  
And the blithe mower to the green fields sang !

Fair shines the autumnal sun, and freshly blows  
The mountain breeze, but fairer looked the sun,  
And sweeter was the gale of summer tide,  
And brighter all the prospect, on a day  
Which summer owned among its fairest hours.  
Sudeley ! amid thy venerable towers,  
Which now the passing beam illuminates,  
Now leaves in darkness, and amid the walls  
Of the lone abbey where the warriors sleep,  
And in thy fields, and underneath thy trees,  
Which canopy the greensward, was a band  
Of social spirits, who, the rosy noon,  
Wandered amid thy ruined parapets,  
And climbed the mouldering stair and giddy tower,  
Or on some verdant mossy bank reclined,  
By branching elms o'ershadow'd, wooed the muse  
To celebrate the Gothic scenery,  
In numbers which the wayward fancy loves ;  
Or taught the mimic pencil to record  
The lineaments of nature, and convey  
The vivid imagery to distant years  
And other friends. They, when the parting sun  
Cast its faint lustre o'er the western hills,  
Turned to the setting orb a mournful eye,

And chid the envious quick-revolving hours  
That brought the sullen evening in their train,  
And shed the silent dews on herb and tree.

It was a day of joy to such as know  
The sweets of nature, and the calm delights  
Which rural scenes, and rural pleasures yield,  
And converse, and free interchange of thought,  
And company of friends beloved and loving,  
Tried by long intercourse in sorrow and joy.

Yet not to thee Sudeley, alone to thee,  
Belong the visions of departed days :  
For every coppice, and each tangled shrub,  
And every flower that climbs the ragged steep,  
Or creeps upon the plain, the rocks and hills,  
The glens and forests, meadows gaily drest,  
And cottages and trees, and peeping spires,  
And meadow paths that lead the wanderer home,  
Speak only of the past, and register  
The history of each particular joy  
That never may return. A mournful thought  
Which dims the view, and saddens all the scene.

It were a glorious and a blessed thing  
To drink deep draughts of that Lethean stream  
Which poets sing, to plunge amid the tide  
Of dark oblivion, and to live exempt  
From all the pains and heavy penalties  
Which memory lays on nature ; to sit down  
Content to bear with uncomplaining spirit  
All present injuries of body or mind,  
And know no other sorrow ; to forget

The past endurances and past delights,  
And, tasting present bliss, enjoy the hope  
Of bliss to come.—It were a blessed thing  
To shut out recollection from the scene!—  
For what is all of human suffering  
But keen remorse for deeds of ill renown  
Long past, or late, or fair occasion lost  
To mend ourselves in outward circumstance,  
Or inward constitution of the mind?  
Or apprehension of returning pain?  
Or recollection of departed joys,  
And happier moments known in other days,  
When love or friendship lived, and friends were there,  
Whom in his fast career, relentless Time  
Has swept away from face of human things,  
Or separated by mischance of fortune?  
It were a blessed thing (so deem the unwise)  
To shut out recollection from the scene,  
And live upon the present and the future!  
But man is made of no immaculate stuff,  
And, ignorant of himself and his own being,  
From actions past must learn to judge aright  
In what regards the future, from the pains  
Of recollected evils, to avoid  
The source of future sorrow, to reclaim  
His mortal weaknesses, and subjugate  
The rude propensities which passion grafts  
Upon his finer nature; from regret  
For friendship lost, or friendship's severed bands,  
To cherish models of high eminence,  
And full subdued and softened to the sense

Of his own frailty, and imperfect state,  
Still to ascend; and rise, thro' every step  
Of hard probation, on to excellence,  
Such as befits a being whose short hour  
Of earthly sojourning, is but the hour  
Of trial for an everlasting life  
Of happiness where recollection\* ends.

CHARLES H. PARRY.

1807.

\* Recollection, as far probably as it may be said to be connected with moral improvement.

FINIS.

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